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THE

Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVIII.

From 2nd JULY to 31st DECEMBER,

1898.

HONGKONG:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED AT THE "DAILY PRESS" OFFICE,
WYNDHAM AND D'AGUILAR STREETS.

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THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China, Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVIII.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 2ND JULY, 1898.

No. 1.

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BIRTHS.

At Elliot's Crescent, Robinson Road, on the 25th June, the wife of C. H. ROGGE, of a daughter.
On the 26th June, at "Craigieburn," the wife of A. H. BOTTENHEIM, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At Nagasaki, on the 22nd June, 1898, by the Rev. A. R. Fuller, JAMES MARKHAM DOW, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, to ISABEL MARION, eldest daughter of J. M. ANTHONY, Esq., of Penang.

DEATHS.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 20th June, 1898, of typhoid fever, AUGUST EDELER, aged 38 years.
At Shanghai, on the 20th June, 1898, the Rev. Y. K. YEN, of the American Church Mission.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 28th May arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 26th June (29 days); and the German mail of the 30th May arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Bayern*, on the 28th June (29 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Conger, the new U.S. Minister to Peking, arrived at Shanghai on the 22nd June by the *Doric*, accompanied by Mrs. Conger, daughter, and niece, Miss Pierce. He was met by Consul-General and Mrs. Goodnow and several Americans, who bade him welcome to China.

Sir William Des Vœux, formerly Governor of Hongkong, is Chairman of the Hooley-Jameson Syndicate.

News was received at Shanghai on the 23rd June by wire of the death of Mr. H. Bancroft Joly, H.M. acting Vice-Consul at Chemulpo. No details were given in the telegram.

It is reported that a serious altercation recently took place at the Tsungli Yamen between Li Hung Chang and Sir Claude MacDonald, Li being guilty of great rudeness to the Minister.

At his second audience with the Emperor of China, H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia presented the Emperor with the insignia of the Order of the Black Eagle, conferred on the Emperor of China by the German Emperor.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A Foochow dispatch reports that the Imperial Government has courteously acceded to the request of the British Admiral and has permitted British men-of-war to use the Foochow Naval dockyard at Pagoda Anchorage for repairs, etc., whenever needed.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The Korean *Official Gazette* announces that the Government has decided to construct a railway from Seoul to Mokpo. It has also been decided that ten students from the English and French language schools will be sent to Europe to study the European method of postal administration.

M. Madrolle, the French traveller, suggests that as compensation for the recent murder of French missionaries in Kwangsi France should occupy Lungchow or Pakhoi, insist on having concessions in the open towns near Tonkin, and demand a concession for a railway from Kwangchowwan to Wuchow.

A Peking telegram of the 18th June published by the *Nagasaki Press* states that the Chinese Government has concluded negotiations with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation for a loan of £2,000,000 sterling. The money is required for the construction of a railway between Shanhaikwan and Newchwang.

We understand that the Woosung Railway will be open for traffic in about six weeks. Platelaying from the Woosung end of the line has already commenced and is advancing well towards Shanghai. The fitting up of the last of the three American locomotives is almost completed and four first-class carriages are expected at Shanghai in a few days. The first class fare to Woosung will be 80 cents. There will be no single fare. The carriages will be first, second, and third, as in England.—*Mercury*.

The *Shen Pao* says it has been arranged between the Tsungli Yamen and the Inspector General of Customs that the officials in Hupeh will apportion an amount of money from the salt revenue and pay it to the Commissioner of Customs at fixed periods for the payment of the Foreign Loan, but the management of the salt business will be retained by the Chinese officials. In the last Chinese moon the Director of the Salt Department of Anhwei received instructions that it has been arranged that Tls. 470,000 be paid to the Commissioner by the Anhwei and Hupeh Salt Departments in a year, and that no changes will be made in the staff.—*Mercury*.

In the regulations governing the navigation of the inland waterways it is provided that steamers must clear at the Customs at a treaty port. It will therefore be impossible for vessels to proceed direct from Hongkong or Macao to ports other than treaty ports. In other respects also the regulations are objectionable, but according to a Reuter's telegram Mr. Curzon has stated that the Government will insist upon the Chinese Government revising the regulations in a satisfactory sense.

The date of latest advices from Manila is the 24th June. Owing to an impression that German support might be expected and to the news that a Spanish relief squadron was on its way out the Spaniards, instead of being prepared to surrender, as was at one time expected, were preparing to make a stubborn defence of Manila, for which purpose they were throwing up earthworks and digging rifle pits. The first of the American troops was expected to arrive on Sunday last, and further news is anxiously awaited.

An Imperial edict of the 20th June, in answer to a Censor named Tseng Ch'ung-yen suggesting the importance of establishing western mining schools at Tientsin and Nanking, commands the Tsungli Yamen to report on the scheme and if favourable to make the necessary arrangements for establishing first-class mining schools at the ports named, and then to extend the scheme to other provinces where mines of all sorts abound, which, owing to the lack of competent Chinese mining engineers, have never been exploited.—*N. C. Daily News*.

Wen Ting-shih, an ex-Censor and at one time a great favourite of the Emperor, but who was degraded and dismissed from office about three years ago for being too straightforward in his denunciations of the Empress Dowager's intermeddling with the prerogatives of the Throne, has recently sent to the Emperor a memorial strongly advising his Majesty to throw himself and the country upon the protection of Great Britain. The memorialist derides the pretended friendship of Russia, and gives a plain sketch of the whole story of the retrocession of Liaotung by Japan, bewails the sad fact that every one in China was misled by the pretensions of Russia, and winds up by saying that in the friendship of Great Britain alone lies the salvation of China.—*N. C. Daily News*.

After a water supply of the most distressing and precarious kind, which has obtained for several hundred years, the native city of Shanghai is now to be provided with an adequate and pure service, which will embrace the latest improvements in water engineering. The contract, the amount of which has not been made public, has been let to Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., who have secured the services of Messrs. Atkinson and Dallas to do the preliminary surveying forthwith. The work, we understand, will be proceeded with, without delay. When it is taken into consideration what horrible and indescribable abuses of the commonest laws of sanitation have prevailed in the city for so many years, the task of opening up the soil for the purpose of laying the mains may be better imagined than described, but with the formidable undertaking *un fait accompli* without doubt the health of the Settlements will be rendered more secure.—*N. C. Daily News*.

LI HUNG-CHANG AND ENGLAND'S POLICY IN CHINA.

In Mr. BLACKMORE's well-known novel "Lorna Doone" will be found an instance of meanness that it would be hard to beat. In those days the maximum wages to be paid to a farm labourer were fixed by law. JOHN RIDD, in his kindness of heart, raised the wages of an old servant above the legal rate, and instead of receiving gratitude and good service in return, got only insubordination; the servant was master of the situation, for when reproved he always threatened to prosecute his employer for his breach of the law in raising his wages, which at once reduced him to helpless silence. Now that LI HUNG-CHANG is once more in the ascendant at Peking Great Britain may expect a similar measure of gratitude from China. How much truth there may be in the rumour retailed by our Tientsin correspondent of an altercation between Li and Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD it is impossible to say, as it rests on Chinese information and may have been grossly exaggerated, but that some sort of a scene occurred there can be little doubt, and the narrative as it stands is quite consistent with Li's character. He is said to have censured Sir CLAUDE on account of his manners and to have threatened to demand his recall. That Sir CLAUDE would prove himself well able to repel the personal rudeness we may be assured, but with a man like Li to deal with he will not find the course of diplomacy easy.

The reascendancy of Li bodes no good either to the interests of his own country or to those of Great Britain. Judging from his past he may be expected to play steadily into the hands of Russia, while towards England he will adopt a hectoring and truculent tone, taking advantage of the fact that England has assumed the rôle of China's friend and protector and cannot, while adhering to her present policy, very well resort to retaliatory measures. An embroilment between Great Britain and China would delight Russia and France beyond measure, as it would give them the opportunity of making a scramble and securing for themselves great advantages without paying for them in any way. Great Britain appears in the character of a peace preserver, and peace preservers seldom earn the thanks of any one and are not infrequently assailed on all sides and especially by those in whose particular interests they are acting; being committed to the policy of preserving the integrity of China, Chinese statesmen of the character of LI HUNG-CHANG will think they can insult her with impunity, since to retaliate would endanger the success of the policy she has adopted.

When the recent crisis in the affairs of China commenced there were two courses open to Great Britain, namely, to leave the Chinese Government to its fate, mark out our own sphere of influence, defend it against all comers if assailed, and leave the other Powers to do what they liked outside our sphere; or, secondly, to preserve the integrity of China and maintain the principle of the open door throughout the length and breadth of the Empire. The latter was the policy adopted and it was carried out ably and for the time being successfully, though not to the satisfaction of the Jingo party, who would have had the country rush into war in pursuit of a will-o'-the-wisp and without any material advantage to be gained. What that party will think of its precious protégé the Chinese Government when it begins to kick and wax arrogant we shall perhaps hear ere long; possibly they will

come to see that to fight for such a rotten institution would be the veriest madness. We are much more likely to have to fight against it, sooner or later. In the recent crisis it would have been the better policy to have left the corrupt and effete Peking Government to stew in its own juice and have guarded our own interests without assuming anything in the nature of a protectorate of the decaying Empire. LI HUNG-CHANG may find, however, if he presumes upon British good nature too far, that the policy that has recently been pursued is capable of readjustment and that coercion may take the place of protection.

FRENCH DESIGNS IN SOUTH CHINA.

The concession granted to France to construct a line of railway from Pakhoi to Nanning is not viewed with approval by the *Independence Tonkinoise*, which sees in it an injury to the prosperity of Tonkin. Such a line, our contemporary says, would attract all the trade of a rich and immense region for the benefit of Pakhoi and to the prejudice of Tonkin. Goods would no longer take the route by Langson, Phulangthuong, and Haiphong, for the most direct, the cheapest, and the shortest route would be by Nanning and Pakhoi, and the millions of francs expended on the line from Phulangthuong to the frontier of China would be thrown away. The interest of France, our contemporary frankly says, is that communication from Pakhoi to upper Kwangsi and Yunnan should remain difficult, long, and costly. It is not difficult to understand the position taken up by the Tonkin paper. What is difficult to understand is the policy of France in seeking such a concession as that which has been granted or accepting it if it was offered. The *Independence* suggests that the reason may perhaps be found in the wish to do a good turn to some Company or other or to secure contracts for the ironwork required. That, however, would hardly seem a sufficient explanation of France's entering upon the work of developing in China a rival route to that via Tonkin. The explanation, we should think, may be looked for rather in political reasons. Tonkin as a trade route has proved disappointing, and France is now seeking to establish a special influence in South China with a view to ultimate annexation should opportunity serve. The Empire of Annam, now a French possession, once extended as far as Canton, and France, as the successor to the heritage of that Empire, would like to see its boundaries again pushed forward to its former limit. This view is not authoritatively formulated, but a perusal of the French newspapers shows that the trend of opinion and desire lies in that direction. In the meantime efforts are being made to establish substantial interests in the region in question. The occupation of Kwangchowwan was equivalent to marking on the map the point up to which French imagination of future empire allows itself free play for the present, and to join Kwangchowwan and Tonkin by bringing the intervening territory under French rule will sooner or later become a subject of actual agitation. A French railway from Pakhoi to Nanning would serve as a stepping stone to further concessions, and so the extension of French influence in South China will proceed, each successive step exciting perhaps little interest but bringing the end inevitably nearer. In the meantime some injury may be done to the Tonkin transit trade, but that trade is not

of immense value and may well be sacrificed for larger objects. Even the *Independence*, while advocating what it deems to be the interests of Tonkin, seems to suggest that it would be a good thing if France took Pakhoi and then developed it; it is only the development of the port by France while the port itself remains Chinese and therefore open to foreign shipping that our contemporary objects to. French opinion is of course always in favour of shutting out foreign trade as far as possible wherever the tricolour flies, and that is the policy that would be pursued in South China should the country pass under French rule. Trade goes on, however, notwithstanding the benighted policy pursued; Tonkin continues a valuable commercial dependency of Hongkong and in course of time no doubt Kwangchowwan will also become so. French dreams of dominating the whole of the trade of South China are in any case doomed to failure, for the West River will always be the principal artery of trade. That magnificent stream has by British efforts been opened to navigation by the vessels of the whole world, and by the same efforts it will be preserved as an open waterway. France has, moreover, entered into an agreement with Great Britain that neither Power shall seek exclusive advantages in the province of Yunnan, and it will probably transpire shortly that a similar agreement has been entered into with reference to Kwangtung and Kwangsi. Such agreements, however, are liable to be torn up or gradually nibbled away, and although we do not anticipate any immediate danger of further French aggression it is well to take note of the direction in which popular opinion is setting. It is well also that Great Britain should have vested interests to oppose to those of France should occasion arise. A railway from Kowloon to Canton and beyond appears to be as desirable from a political point of view as it undoubtedly is on commercial grounds.

A GOVERNMENT NOTE ISSUE FOR HONGKONG.

The expediency of a Government note issue is now being discussed in mercantile circles. The Banks, we hear, have in their note issues reached the amount authorised by their charters and have had their attention officially called to the fact, so that no further expansion of the amount of paper money in circulation can be looked for under existing circumstances. That is a serious state of affairs, for notes have become the principal circulating medium, very few transactions being settled in specie. The Chinese are also said to have taken to hoarding notes instead of silver, and it is certain that they use them very extensively in preference to silver when they have occasion to transfer large sums from place to place outside the colony. Thus it happens that while the colony requires an expanding currency for its increasing trade the currency is in fact being restricted. The scarcity of bank notes is not the sole or principal cause of the prevailing tightness of money, but it is believed that it is a contributory cause, and that a Government note issue would afford an appreciable measure of relief, since there are considerable stocks of silver in the colony which would at once pass into circulation if they could be converted into notes. In the Straits Settlements a Government note issue has been adopted, the Government notes circulating side by side with those of the Banks. A similar arrangement might be made here. Certain it is that something must be done;

either the Government must issue notes itself, or the Banks must be allowed to increase the amount of their issues, for which they would require an amendment of their charters and an increase of capital. It is generally recognised that an increase of the capital of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank will become necessary ere long to meet the requirements of the Bank's expanding business, and an increase of capital would carry with it the right to a proportionate increase in its note issue. But that, after all, would only afford temporary relief; in a few years, or perhaps even a few months, the demand for notes would again outrun the supply. What is wanted is an arrangement by which the supply may be increased indefinitely according to the requirements. This want a Government note issue would supply. Anyone having silver would be entitled to present it at the Treasury and to receive in return an equivalent amount in notes, and there would be no question of restricting the issue to twenty millions, or fifty millions, or any other amount. Great as is the favour in which notes stand at present it is likely to further increase in the future in proportion as the fall in the value of silver diminishes the portability of that form of currency. Twenty years ago an able-bodied man might carry a couple of pounds' worth of currency in his pockets without more than a supportable amount of inconvenience, but the same sum now is excessively burdensome, and when the value of silver has further fallen to a point at which it will be necessary to carry double the present weight to represent the same value people will not want to carry it at all if they can possibly help it. A remedy for the inconvenience might be found in the adoption of the gold standard, but the colony does not appear to be prepared to take that step as yet. The next best thing will be to have a Government note issue, unrestricted as to amount.

THE RE-ENACTMENT OF THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ORDINANCE.

The news that it has been decided to sanction the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Ordinance in Hongkong will be received with sincere satisfaction by both the Foreign and Chinese communities. Some few dissentients there will be, no doubt, but the evil that has resulted from the repeal of the Acts has been so great and so notorious that no serious opposition can be offered to their re-enactment. The evil has been of a two-fold nature, namely, injury to the public health, and especially to that of the garrison and fleet, and, secondly, the intolerable state of affairs that the uncontrolled opening of brothels all over the colony has brought about amongst the Chinese community, rendering respectable family life almost impossible. The first of these subjects was very ably dealt with in representations made last year by the China Association to the Colonial Office, in which full statistical information was given of the deplorable effects upon the army and navy. In one of his letters the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. S. GUNDRY, writes:—"The reports and statistics which the Hongkong Committee adduce in support of their case exhibit in striking contrast the persistent improvement in the sanitary conditions which followed the enactment of such regulations in 1858, and the immediate revulsion and deterioration which ensued upon their rescission. Previous to 1858 Hongkong was proverbial for an aggravated form of disease. The enactment

of what are known as the Contagious Diseases Ordinances in that year produced a steady decrease in the number of cases and virulence of the disease till the position was reversed, and the colony became noted throughout the Services as one of the healthiest in this respect in the Empire." The ratio of admissions to hospital in the garrison, which had sunk to 15.6 per 1,000 in 1886, rose to 359 in 1896, and actually half the garrison (499.29 per 1,000) were admitted to hospital in the first four months of 1897. The testimony of the naval reports is no less convincing, the ratio of admissions to hospital per thousand of strength having been 229.4 in 1895.

As to the effect on the Chinese, the Registrar-General in his report for 1895 stated that the repeal of Part III. of Ordinance 11 of 1890, which enforced registration of brothels, had resulted, as was anticipated, in a large increase in the number of what are termed sly brothels, and that this increase was "naturally very prejudicial to family life among the poorer classes and had been viewed with great dissatisfaction by the Chinese." In his report for 1896 Mr. LOCKHART again reported that the number of such establishments had "still further increased, much to the disgust of respectable Chinese;" and in his report for last year he writes:—"I regret to be compelled to again call attention to the large number of sly brothels, which will, I fear, continue to increase until steps are taken to deal with this evil. The Chinese are most anxious that something should be done to remedy the present state of affairs, which they complain is a great nuisance to respectable residents in the colony and acts as a deterrent to the increase of Chinese family life in Hongkong." On grounds both of public health and public decency it was most desirable that action should be taken to restore the state of affairs that existed prior to the repeal, and it is most gratifying that the home Government has at last been prevailed upon to sanction the re-enactment of the Ordinances.

THE MANAGEMENT OF RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

For railways to prove a financial success in China there is little doubt that they must be placed under foreign management. The temptation to squeeze is so ineradicably ingrained in the Chinese character that it will, for many years to come at any rate, be most unwise to confide any industrial or commercial undertaking to native management. There are always, in all Chinese business concerns, to use a homely phrase, far more cats than catch mice. Many of these are much underpaid, some get no actual pay at all, and all are keenly on the alert to make money, by any means that offer. As the Chinese are past masters in the art of "squeezing," and devote most of their time to the subject, which is very vital to them, it is not to be wondered at that corruption sets in on such a scale as to quickly cripple any enterprise, however promising. No matter whether it be a factory, a steamship line, a railway, or a mine, the cream of the profits is quickly skimmed off for the benefit of the management proper. As all the underlings follow the example of their superiors, and as the local officials invariably put in a claim for a share in the plunder, it is small wonder that industrial undertakings owned and managed by Chinese, no matter how encouraging their prospects, invariably tell the same tale of comparative failure after a brief trial. The railway will, in most instances, pay well in

China, if made where there is a large passenger traffic. The Peking-Tientsin railway is already yielding such good returns that the line is being doubled, and should prove highly remunerative with such a traffic. The management, however, leaves something to be desired, and the line is, according to a correspondent of one of our Shanghai contemporaries, being victimised by the Chinese "squeeze maker." He gives an instance of how the Company is defrauded out of its legitimate fares. Three Chinese gentlemen left Tientsin by the early morning train for the capital. The ticket office was not open early enough for all the passengers to secure tickets—probably by design—and the three before mentioned were among the number. They were, however, told that if they paid their fares it would be all right and though still anxious to get tickets they were induced to take places in the cars. At Langtang, the half-way station, a foreign inspector boards the train to go through the cars with the ticket collectors, and at this station the men who had taken the passage money from the three passengers for Peking jumped out and bought tickets there for Peking, which they handed to the travellers, who were thus enabled to present their tickets to the collector, while the obliging (?) individuals who had secured them pocketed the difference in the fares between the trip from Tientsin to Peking, and that from Langtang to Peking, a very good morning's work for them. The Railway Company were thus defrauded of one and a-half fares to Peking, and the correspondent says this sort of thing goes on daily. As he rightly remarks:—"It is this old evil—this utter lack of right principle which runs through the entire social and civil fabric of the Chinese make-up, that is spoiling the new good that is come to them, and robbing it in large measure of the blessings it would otherwise convey." On lines built by foreign capital, however, and managed by foreign officials, it would be possible to impose some check on the robbery that must inevitably go on wherever Chinese are employed. It is hard enough, even under foreign supervision, to prevent corrupt practices, especially as the Chinese set to work to bribe and corrupt foreign employes, but there is at least a certainty that the railway earnings will in the main be collected. For any foreign capitalists to advance money for the establishment of any undertaking on Chinese soil without an absolute guarantee that the construction and subsequent working shall be under foreign supervision would indeed be folly. Fortunately the risks are pretty well known, and there is little chance of foreign capital being invested in China except to be laid out under the eye of the investor.

MR. DEMETRIUS BOULGER ON THE SALVATION OF CHINA.

In the May number of the *Contemporary Review* Mr. DEMETRIUS BOULGER contributes an interesting paper which he has entitled "How China may yet be saved." Mr. BOULGER is of opinion that Great Britain has been diplomatically defeated at Peking, not through want of will or ability on the part of our statesmen and diplomatists, but because the Representative of Russia was less fettered, the Foreign Minister less bound by pledges, less scrupulous of the preservation of peace. The policy to which the British Government stands committed in the Far East, he says, "is based on the fundamental principle and assumption that China will continue to exist as a

"nation and an empire." This policy, he contends, is less self-seeking and nobler than the alternative one of coming to an arrangement with Russia for the division of the Celestial Empire into recognised spheres of authority, influence, and in the end absolute possession; but if it fails of success the future will pronounce it the inferior, and our descendants will blame us for having lost the whole where we might have secured a part. As the holders of the largest stake in the trade and development of the Central Kingdom, Great Britain, Mr. BOULGER holds, is bound to adopt a policy calculated to secure the possession of that trade and to maintain the position she has so long possessed. China cannot save herself, and, in the opinion of Mr. BOULGER, must be saved in her own despite. For he sees clearly that there is no Chinese official who is capable of rising to the situation. China's best public men have lately joined the majority, the Empress Dowager is self-seeking and blind to the dangers menacing the Empire; the Emperor is a weak puppet, incapable of initiating any policy, a tool in the hands of designing ministers; and Prince KUNG, on whose patriotism alone any dependence could be placed and from whom Mr. BOULGER thought it possible salvation might come, if supported by the Ministers, has, unfortunately, died since the article before us was sent to press.

There remains the notorious LI HUNG-CHANG, the mis-called "Grand old man" of China, the "Bismark" of the East, but who has nothing grand, or noble, or patriotic about him. Stripped of all the romance with which this man has been clothed by paid partizans and ignorant persons, he stands out on the canvas as a base and sordid knave who has throughout his long career preferred his own pocket to his country's good. This fact is now only beginning to be recognised in Europe, but it is satisfactory to note that this most cynical mandarin is being estimated more nearly at his proper value. This is what Mr. BOULGER has to say of him, speaking from some personal knowledge and after watching most attentively the progress of his long and somewhat adventurous career:—"LI HUNG-CHANG is the most prominent, the most experienced, and in a sense the most clever of Chinese officials. If he is not alive to the needs of the situation, we may reasonably conclude that no other Chinese Minister is. He came to England in August, 1898, and it was my privilege to have two long interviews with him. The object of those interviews was to expound his policy, and to place it in the clearest and most favourable light, before the British public. The political interests of China, the personal interests of LI HUNG-CHANG at that moment, both pointed to the necessity of candour, and, as China wanted a deal from England, it was equally obvious that she ought to cede something on her side, and when she asked for an improved tariff, she should have been prepared to give an equivalent in increased facilities for trade. To no one should these plain facts have been clearer than to LI HUNG-CHANG, on the assumption that he possessed a clear mind and a modicum of common sense. Yet he was not to be induced or led into any view of the situation other than that China was entitled, as a strict matter of justice, to the same tariff favours as Japan had just obtained, and that England's withholding them was tantamount to an act of injustice towards China. He ignored all that Japan had done to deserve the favour and to inspire confidence, and he refused to promise a

"single concession in return. With a cynical, but dangerous, humour he wished it to be given to the world that virtue was to be its own reward; and this was the man whom we now know to have had in his portfolio at the very moment of my interviews with him the Secret Convention signed with Prince LOBANOFF a few weeks before at Moscow. Unbendingly pugnacious towards England, the country that had refused to play the part of false friend, LI HUNG-CHANG, the figure-head, if not the soul of Chinese policy, had signed away the rights of his Emperor over the most important strategical point on the Chinese coast, and had acquiesced in Russia's procuring that vitally important Liaotung Peninsula, which China herself had paid the Japanese six millions sterling to relinquish."

Seeing that China can hardly be saved from within, Mr. BOULGER discusses how she can be maintained as an Empire and a nation by outside assistance. He rightly scoffs at the idea of this being effected by the acquisition of a navy. That experiment was tried, and the result, after all the careful training by Captain LANG, R.N., was that, because that officer could not get a free hand, there was, on the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War, no discipline and no efficiency; the funds had been diverted to other purposes, and the fleet was insufficient for the purpose of grappling with the Japanese Navy. The same results would infallibly be experienced again in any attempt to reconstitute the Navy, and as a matter of fact time does not admit of the experiment being tried. What then remains to be done? Mr. BOULGER thinks that, spite of the acquisition of Weihaiwei by Great Britain, Peking will in future be mainly under the influence of Russia, and he advocates the shifting of the Central power from the capital to Nanking, and the formation in the Yangtze Valley of a large and disciplined army under British officers. In short, what GORDON did for the Ever Victorious Army and what Sir HERBERT KITCHENER has done more recently for the Egyptians in the Soudan, he would see attempted once more to conserve China as a nation and a Power. Mr. BOULGER believes, perhaps rightly, that outside Peking the sense of disapproval of recent surrenders to Russia is more deeply felt and loudly expressed, and calls attention to the fact that one of the Censors had the courage to call LI HUNG-CHANG a traitor. We note that WEN TING-SHIH, an ex-Censor, a very out-spoken personage, who was dismissed for denouncing the Empress-Dowager's interference with the prerogatives of the Throne some three years ago, has recently sent a strongly worded memorial to the EMPEROR urging His Majesty to throw himself and the country upon the protection of Great Britain, expressing the belief that in her friendship alone lies the salvation of China. Mr. BOULGER is no doubt correct in believing that the flourishing provinces of Central China contain the material from which a disciplined army might be raised and maintained, but he is not very clear as to how the movement to inaugurate it is to be started. He vaguely hints that the Viceroy CHANG CHI-HUNG and LIU KUN-YI would probably provide the funds and raw material if they saw some results achieved, say in Shanghai. We gather that Mr. BOULGER wishes to propose that the native merchants in Shanghai should be got to combine with the foreigners to raise a body of say 5,000 trained troops, which would figure so well as to induce the officials generally to advocate the extension of this

force until it swelled to the dimensions of a national army. Very good in theory, but not, we fear, reducible to practice. The Chinese mandarin, whether he governs a district in Manchuria or a prefecture in Kwangtung is the same casual creature, and could not be got to work in harmony with British officers even, much less with British "adventurers," as Mr. BOULGER suggests. If ever a Chinese army, for the defence of the Central and Southern provinces, is formed and is to be a good workable force, disciplined and harmonious, it must be under the command of one man, a military officer with a genius for administration, who must be given supreme power, and rendered entirely independent of and free from interference by the provincial officials. Any attempts to raise a military force on Western models in China based on other lines would fail and be likely to prove potent agents for mischief. The possession of a body of disciplined troops by a provincial satrap would only serve to render him arrogant and impracticable, and lead to a strained condition of relations with foreigners which would be calculated to bring about hostilities and foreign occupation, the very thing it is now felt most desirable to provide against.

SUPREME COURT.

26th June.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

KWAN YUI YEE HOP KEE V. PO FUNG.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys) appeared for appellant, and Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for respondent.

Mr. Francis said the amount involved in this case was a very small one, but the case, so far as it affected the practice of Chinese traders in the colony, was of considerable importance. The question was simply as to which of two persons must suffer by the fraud of a third. His Lordship in the court below held that there was negligence on the part of the plaintiff in the case. His contention, however, was that there was no negligence on the part of plaintiff. They did not dispute the facts of the case. A man who was known to have been in the employ of defendant came and gave an order for 50 sacks of flour. It was not disputed that a month before the man was in the employ of defendant. A short time afterwards a couple of coolies, admittedly the coolies of defendant, came with a delivery order, on receipt of which the flour was delivered to the two coolies and taken away in a cart which was known to belong to defendant. The same afternoon plaintiff sent his ordinary delivery book to defendant, so that the receipt of the flour might be acknowledged, but defendant refused to "chop" the book and denied any knowledge of the flour having been ordered or received. It appeared from the evidence that the man who gave the order for the flour and who was in their employ a month before had been dismissed for embezzlement. The learned judge in the court below held that plaintiff was guilty of negligence in not, when the order was delivered, sending to defendant's shop to ascertain whether it was a bona fide order or not. The contention of plaintiff was that he had simply acted in accordance with the ordinary practice, and that the negligence was on the part of defendant.

Leave to appeal was granted, Monday, July 4th, being the date fixed for the hearing.

27th June.

WEISING LOTTERY APPEAL.

Mr. Francis (instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, Crown Solicitor,) appeared for appellant, and the Attorney-General, the Hon. W.

M. Goodman (instructed by Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) for respondent (Inspector Hanson).

The Attorney-General said this was an appeal from the decision of the Police Magistrate, which decision was delivered on the 11th May, and by which decision he found five Chinamen keepers of a Weising lottery agency and sentenced them each to three months' imprisonment and fined each \$1,000, with the alternative if they could not pay the fine of imprisonment for a further period of six months, and he found that the date of the alleged offence was the 19th of April of this year. Defendants were dissatisfied with the decision of the Magistrate, and his learned friend Mr. Francis appeared some time ago and obtained a rule from the court for the rehearing of the case. The evidence to be used at the rehearing would be confined to the depositions, and the grounds of that appeal were that there was not sufficient evidence adduced to justify the finding of the Magistrate that the whole of defendants were keepers of a common gaming house at No. 110, Jervois street, and that there was no evidence before the Magistrate that the money ordered to be confiscated was in actual use for the purpose of gambling or was found on the persons or keepers of such house. He had made it his duty to go carefully through the depositions, and he had satisfied himself that as regarded the fifth defendant it appeared he was the cook of the establishment, and although it was quite possible for a cook to cook part of the day and do some small subsidiary work in assisting the keepers of the Weising lottery agency, he did not think the evidence justified his asking that the conviction against the fifth defendant should stand. As regarded the third and fourth defendants, he had to say there appeared to him to be a suspicion against them. The third defendant was a student and had been living in the room for two years, and there were two lottery tickets in connection with the Canton branch found on his desk. Therefore he must have bought Weising lottery tickets and had a full knowledge of what was going on in the place. At the same time he was a student most of the time at Queen's College, and although he thought the matter very suspicious, as far as he was concerned he did not propose to press the case against the third defendant, and he might say the same as regarded the fourth. Therefore the question was whether the decision of the Magistrate should be upheld as regarded the first and second defendants, and also as regarded the confiscation of the money.

The Chief Justice said there was no doubt a great deal of difference between the case of the first defendant and that of the second defendant.

Mr. Justice Wise said that this was his opinion too.

Mr. Francis admitted that there was a case on which the magistrate could convict with reference to the first defendant, but with reference to the second, though there might be the gravest suspicion against him, it was very difficult to say that there was any evidence against him.

The Chief Justice—I have a pretty fair notion of what he came from Macao for; at the same time there is no clear proof. I think you will find it very difficult to support the conviction in his case.

The Attorney-General said the second defendant, who was father of the first and fourth defendants, was sitting at a round wooden table in the middle of the room, and on that table were an abacus and some money. He had in his hand a pencil and two pieces of paper. On one of these pieces of paper was a memorandum on which were written the words, "Bank notes \$53." There was a bundle of bank notes—\$53—lying beside the desk on the table where he was sitting, and in that bundle of \$53 was one of the identical notes marked by the police and used for the purchase of lottery tickets.

Mr. Francis said he abandoned the appeal so far as the first defendant was concerned. He submitted, however, that for a first offence the punishment was too heavy, the maximum penalty having been inflicted, and he suggested that the punishment be reduced to a fine, with six months' imprisonment in default of payment.

Mr. Francis also asked for a declaration as to whether the money in the safe was or was not used for the purpose of gambling.

The Attorney-General combatted Mr. Francis's suggestion.

The Chief Justice, in giving judgment, said that with regard to the third, fourth, and fifth appellants the Attorney-General felt he could not support the conviction in the court below. Therefore the result with regard to them was that the decision of the Magistrate was reversed and the information against them dismissed. With regard to the first defendant, Mr. Francis said he was not able to show cause against the conviction and the result was that the conviction stood subject to the consideration of the question whether the amount of punishment awarded by the Magistrate was not excessive. The Magistrate had apparently given the maximum punishment. That was to say he had imposed a fine of \$1,000, which carried imprisonment in default of payment for six months, and then in order to make up the full term of nine months, he had also awarded a term of imprisonment for three months with hard labour. No doubt the penalty was an excessive one and possibly if he were sitting in the first instance he might not have gone so far in the case of a first offence. But considering all the circumstances he thought there was no reason to disturb the decision of the Magistrate in regard to the first defendant. In regard to the second defendant, it appeared he lived in Macao, being the manager of a pawn shop there. There was nothing to connect him with the branch of the Weising lottery at Macao. He was the father of the first appellant and also of the fourth appellant. It appeared that the father wrote a letter to his two sons—one of whom lived in this house—to say he was coming over to Hongkong and they must make arrangements to fetch his boxes. In accordance with that letter he was found at this gaming house when the police made a raid on the premises. He was sitting at the table on which there were some bundles of money and implements used no doubt in connection with the Weising business. He had in his hand a piece of paper on which two large sums of money were mentioned, and these two sums correspond with two bundles of money in the room. The numbers were written in pencil, and he had in his hand a pencil which would undoubtedly make marks of that kind. He thought this was not sufficient to enable them to say that the man was assisting in conducting the business of the Weising lottery at that place. The facts, though suspicious, were quite consistent with his innocence. He thought therefore that the conviction so far as he was concerned must be quashed. With regard to the money found in the safe, the court could not see its way to alter the decision of the Magistrate in regard to it.

29th June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE KWONG SIK LUNG FIRM V. YEUNG TSUK U AND YEUNG SHAN U.

Mr. Melbourne, barrister, who appeared for plaintiffs, said the claim was for \$2,779.34 for goods sold and delivered. The suit was undefended. On Friday, 15th October, 1897, the application of plaintiffs for liberty to proceed with the suit *ex parte* was granted. Mr. Melbourne read the petition, which was dated November 11th, 1897. It recited that plaintiffs were a firm of fruit dealers carrying on business in the Central Market, Victoria. The first defendant lately resided at 70, Wellington Street, and was now in Victoria Gaol. The second defendant lately resided at 22, Wing Wo Street, but now carried on business in Tientsin. In 1896 and 1897 defendants, who were then in Hongkong, purchased from plaintiffs some sugar cane and other goods. Plaintiffs paid certain sums for packing and for freight on behalf of defendants.

Plaintiffs' managing partner was called. He proved the order and delivery of the goods, adding that defendants paid something on account.

His Lordship gave judgment for plaintiffs for the amount claimed and costs, with interest at the rate of 8 per cent. from the date of the decree.

30th June.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE.)

RE AGA MAHOMED ALLY SHIRAZEE, DEBTOR.

A SMALL DIVIDEND.

The above debtor applied for his discharge. He was adjudicated bankrupt on January 6th, 1898, his public examination was concluded on the 25th November, 1897, and the receiving order was made on the 24th April, 1897. At the date of the receiving order the debtor was a Persian opium merchant and general commission agent, and had then been carrying on his business in Hongkong for about eight years. He was 11 years previously in a Persian opium merchant's firm in Hongkong, and started business on his own account with an unimpaired capital of about \$8,000. The debtor's statement of affairs showed total assets \$14,206.8 and total liabilities \$21,675.45. The assets shown by the statement of affairs consisted chiefly of one book debt due from the debtor's brother Amin at Shiraz amounting to \$13,348.11, which asset is considered by the Imperial Bank of Persia at Ispahan to be a bad one. There are in addition the assets considered doubtful by the debtor, which consist of (quoting from the Official Receiver's report):—

(a) \$7,000 due from Haji Mahomed Carrim, lately a merchant of Ispahan. This amount was paid to Carrim by the Imperial Bank of Persia on a bill drawn by Carrim upon and accepted by the Bankrupt for the purchase of opium to be forwarded to the bankrupt. Carrim did not purchase the opium, and from enquiries I have made I find that he has disappeared from Ispahan, and no one now knows where he is.

(b) A sum of \$1,921.21 due from H. M. Sadeek Nemazee, lately a merchant of Bombay, but whose affairs are now in bankruptcy, and it is unlikely that anything can be recovered from his estate.

(c) A claim for \$2,565.75 against the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, in respect of damage to opium. I have investigated this claim, and find there is no prospect of successfully proving the damage, and I have therefore abandoned it. This bank has proved against the bankrupt's estate for \$1,323.80, being difference between the amount advanced by the bank upon the security of the opium and the amount realised by the sale. The bank is willing to modify this claim in the event of a dividend being declared.

Mr. Grist appeared for the debtor. He said this was an application made by the debtor for his discharge. His lordship had a report by the Official Receiver from section 7 of which his lordship would see that there were \$7,000 due to bankrupt from a man named Carrim; \$1,921.21 due from a late merchant in Bombay; and there was also a claim for \$2,565.21, which was eventually abandoned, against the Mercantile Bank, in respect of some opium which was damaged. That action was a very unfortunate affair for the debtor. There being no market in Hongkong he sent these goods up the coast for the purpose of getting them sold through the bank, and while in the custody of the bank they were damaged, presumably he thought by being put too near the boilers. It was found eventually that the debtor could not look to the bank to make good that money, and consequently he had to lose it. He would call his lordship's particular attention to section 19 of the report, in which Mr. Shepherd said, "The bankrupt has given the Official Receiver every assistance he could in the bankruptcy proceedings, and particularly by his knowledge and exertions enabled the Official Receiver to realise the goods in the hands of the secured creditors with a profit of \$151.13, notwithstanding the great uncertainty of the rate of exchange between Hongkong and India, when the neglect of a day would have resulted in a further loss instead of a profit." He would also call his lordship's attention to

section 20, which said, "The only conduct of the bankrupt in the management of his business which appears to me open to blame is his remittance of money to his brother Amin at Shiraz, the acceptance of Carrim's bill for a shipment of opium, and the useless defence set up against the Imperial Bank of Persia." These were the only three points which were in any way against the debtor. As regarded the remittance of money to the debtor's brother, the debtor had had many dealings with his brother, and he remitted the money to him to send opium. He had no reason for believing his brother was not a perfectly honest and straightforward man, and if a man could not trust his own brother it was very difficult to say whom he possibly could trust.

The Chief Justice—He was not very prudent. He seems to have trusted him a little too far.

Mr. Grist said he did, but he had no reason at that time for not trusting him. Then, again, the acceptance of this bill of Carrim's, which was the subject of an action in respect to the Imperial Bank, the debtor had had many dealings with this man before. He had been recommended by a very good firm. It was possible the debtor was a little careless in accepting these bills before he actually saw the opium. His Lordship would find in section 20 the following reference to the remittance to the debtor's broker:—"I find that the debtor had had previous transactions with his brother to the extent of \$14,000 and upwards; that his brother had duly made the remittances required by the bankrupt up to January, 1894." Although there was only a very small dividend—one of 30 cents—in view of the circumstances he would ask his lordship to suspend the order for discharge only a nominal time. He would ask for an order of discharge, but that the operation be suspended.

The Chief Justice—You see the court must suspend the order.

Mr. Grist said the order must be suspended for such time as his lordship thought fit, but he would submit that this was a case in which his Lordship should only fix a nominal time, because of the conduct of the man during the whole of the proceedings. There was no opposition whatsoever to the order.

The Chief Justice said he had been through the papers in this case, including the full and careful report of the Official Receiver. It appeared there were three points which required and received consideration from the Official Receiver. The first was the conduct of the debtor in his dealings with his half-brother at Shiraz. It appeared the principal debt put down as an asset in the statement of affairs was the sum of \$13,000 alleged to be due to the debtor from his half brother. It was doubtful whether that amount could be recovered. It seemed that the debtor and his half-brother had had dealings for some time, and apparently those dealings had been satisfactory. But it also appeared that for some time past the half brother had not been acting in a business-like way, and he was inclined to think that the debtor was not prudent in continuing the remittances and in continuing dealings with his half-brother under the circumstances. The next point was with regard to the acceptance of bills by the debtor as against opium which was supposed to be sent to him on his order by a man named Carrim. That was somewhat worse than the other matter, because although Carrim had been recommended by a Bombay firm with whom the debtor had had dealings for some time, still the debtor himself did not know this man, and it certainly was far from a prudent thing for him to accept bills to the amount of \$7,000 against opium which had not arrived and which never was bought. The third and last point was in respect to the defendant's defence to the suit of the Imperial Bank of Persia in respect to these particular bills, which had found their way into the hands of the Imperial Bank of Persia. He was not going to blame him on that point. He believed the defence was set up under the advice of the solicitors and counsel, and he did not know that he could be blamed for that. The main fact remained that the dividend to be paid would probably be a matter of only 30 cents per cent., and that was very small—a merely nominal dividend. However, he thought this was not a case where the Court should refuse the order; it was

a question only of suspending the order. He would, therefore, make the order of discharge, and suspend its operation for four months. In making this order he had regard to the fact that these proceedings had been pending now since March last.

ADJUDICATED BANKRUPT.

Mr. Grist applied on behalf of a creditor that the Po Wa firm, carrying on business at 92, Jervois Street, should be adjudicated bankrupt and that Mr. Bruce Shepherd be appointed the trustee.

The Chief Justice granted the application.

THE CAINE ROAD MURDER.

TRIAL OF OZORIO.

VERDICT: WILFUL MURDER.

At the Supreme Court on 24th June, before Sir John Carrington (Chief Justice) and a special jury, the trial of Joan de Matta Ozorio for the murder of Francisca Xavier de Jesus on the evening of May 9th was resumed.

The Attorney-General asked that Miss Gloria Portario might be recalled so that she might be further questioned as to the date when prisoner commenced to take liberties with her.

Mr. Francis, however, objected.

The Chief Justice upheld the objection.

Mr. Francis then addressed the jury on behalf of prisoner. He said that in his short opening the previous day he pointed out to them that there was no question as to the fact that prisoner had killed Ozorio. The defence was two-fold. First that prisoner at the time he committed the act was insane. The second portion of the defence started with the assumption that if of opinion that prisoner was possessed of that amount of reasoning power and of intelligence and judgment at the time he committed the act that he must be held responsible in law for his act, that the circumstances under which the act of killing was committed by him were of such a character as to justify them in finding that the act was not wilful, was not premeditated, was of such a character that would justify them in returning a verdict of manslaughter—that was simply a finding that there was an unlawful killing. Broadly, with reference to the first of those points: as to what was the state of mind of the prisoner at the time of his committing the act. Because prisoner showed no symptoms of insanity when examined by the medical men they would be asked to draw the inference that he was not insane on the 9th of May last; but he asked them to bear in mind that except in that indirect way the medical evidence had no direct bearing on the question before them. They had not given any evidence, and were not in a position to give any evidence, as to what was the state of prisoner's mind either before or after the time of the commission of the offence, and therefore the whole question of prisoner's sanity or insanity at the time of the commission of the offence and in connection with that offence had to be dealt with by them mainly on the facts arising out of the whole circumstances which put together constituted the history of the offence, the history of the acts of his life which immediately led up to that offence. They had heard from the medical men that it was possible a man might have been insane when he committed an offence and might have shown no signs of insanity before, and that after he committed the act might appear to be perfectly sane, and although, as the medical men put it, it was improbable that he should not show some signs of insanity at a later period, still they had to admit that such cases had existed. They had to consider and decide whether or not this was one of those cases. All the evidence of prisoner's life history went to show not that he was insane and should have been locked up in a lunatic asylum, but simply to show them the probability, the liability of a man with such a life history doing acts of insanity and behaving as he had behaved. They were enquiring into a case of mental disease precisely similar to bodily disease only that the symptoms were far more obscure. Although in bodily disease up to a certain period of life it might not have shown itself as something which could be diagnosed or described, nevertheless the tendency to that disease might exist and might have existed

for many years, and might have shown itself by slight signs thought to be of no importance at the time and yet read and understood when the disease had actually shown itself. The same thing precisely existed and must exist in mental disease—a tendency might exist in a human subject to mental disease. Who was prisoner as far as they knew him from the evidence? As a boy he was of a very violent temper and was known to his school fellows as "Crazy Joao." That, it might be said, was no evidence that he was crazy, but what was it evidence of? Although the witnesses were not able to detail his words or acts, to which they gave no attention at the time, it testified to the fact that his conduct at that time was such as to earn for him that name. They found that later in life—since 1888, here in Hongkong—his temper had been uncertain, his actions so eccentric that many of his intimate friends had entertained precisely the same opinion about him and had ceased to be intimate with him or had unhesitatingly expressed their opinion to him that his proper place was in a lunatic asylum. Mr. Francis went on to deal at considerable length with the details obtained from the witnesses. He added that prisoner had got it into his head that his sweetheart had been unfaithful to him and he had been brooding over this month after month. He had been reduced to a state of mental prostration and weakness as the result of that cogitation, and was frequently known to weep. He put it to the jury that the man was a monomaniac on the evening of the 9th of May and had been for two or three months, and if a man had a mind diseased with reference to one matter and they found him acting as a monomaniac with reference to that matter, who could possibly tell when dealing with such a delicate structure as the mind how far and to what extent that disease had extended or how far and to what extent the mind in the other regions in which it operated had or had not become diseased? Where they found a mind seriously diseased on one point could they without the strongest and clearest evidence come to the conclusion that it was sound and hale and perfect with reference to all other matters? He was not alleging that prisoner was insane before February or March; he was alleging, and he put it to the jury that the man might have had a tendency that way. The question before the jury was not whether prisoner was insane before this occurrence, or whether he was insane after the occurrence, but whether he was insane at the time of the shooting, and whether he was insane in connection with the events which were then occurring. He put it to the jury that the man was the victim of a delusion with reference to Miss Portario, and that as the result of that delusion he became a victim as regarded her of an utterly causeless jealousy, one of the most violent, one of the most dangerous passions which could affect or afflict the mind of man; that that jealousy was not founded on one single iota of fact to which the smallest suspicion could attach. It was based entirely upon the extraordinary delusion—semi-medical, semi-erotic—which prisoner had conceived in his own mind with reference to the signs of virginity. He put it to them that that delusion excited in prisoner's mind this feeling of the most passionate jealousy, that that jealousy had absolutely no tangible object on which to fix itself, that he did not believe or seriously suspect de Jesus of having betrayed him. De Jesus might have been mentioned as a possible person, but so was the medical man; and so far as prisoner had any fixed jealousy of any person it was more the medical man than de Jesus. He submitted that the shooting of de Jesus was not the result of jealousy, that the act of shooting de Jesus was an insane impulse arising out of prisoner's diseased state of mind evidenced by this monomania, evidenced by this insane jealousy, evidenced by prisoner's whole conduct towards Miss Portario and towards others during these two previous months, and probably influenced and brought to a head by an actual personal assault upon him by de Jesus, when de Jesus came into the house and heard that his mother had been knocked down by prisoner, or if not by an actual assault a commencement of an assault or again by the fear of an assault. Prisoner must have heard

the niece call out to de Jesus that the old lady had been knocked down, he must have seen de Jesus come into the verandah and advance towards him, and he might have been under the impression, in his unhealthy excited state of mind, that de Jesus was about to attack him, and he put it to the jury that prisoner was in such a state of mind at that moment, the result of all these combined causes, that he was not in possession of his right senses and had not been in his right senses in reference to this matter for a couple of months, and that the events of that evening brought matters to a crisis. Mr. Francis proceeded to deal with the law with regard to insanity, and after a few final words to the jury resumed his seat at one o'clock, when the court adjourned for tiffin.

Immediately after tiffin the Attorney-General addressed the jury. He remarked at the outset that had it not been for the very elaborate and extremely able defence of his learned friend Mr. Francis, a defence which he thought it necessary to elaborate that morning in a speech of three and a half hours' duration, he should have thought they would have had to deal with as simple a case of murder as ever came before a jury. He would submit that they had here evidence of an ordinary case of murder. After touching on the facts of the case, the Attorney-General contended that there was absolutely no evidence whatever to warrant a verdict of not guilty on the ground of insanity. Insanity was easily set up, but it was difficult to prove. Mr. Francis seemed to keep that defence as a kind of masked battery for the end, contending that prisoner was labouring under a delusion. A delusion was one sign of madness. There was a case on record where a man believed he was the Crystal Palace, another that he had a glass finger, and another that he was an absolute monarch. If prisoner's brain was diseased at the time he committed this act it was very strange Dr. Atkinson, Dr. Lowson and Dr. Thompson could not find any symptoms when they examined prisoner. He submitted that the case was one of simple murder, and that the defence so ably and so ingeniously set up had entirely failed. His learned friend had not found a single doctor in the colony to come forward to support his plea. In spite of the eloquence of his learned friend he suggested that they could come to no other conclusion than that this was a case of murder by a jealous young man who was corrupt in his own mind and had corrupted the mind of his fiancée.

The Chief Justice commenced his summing up at ten minutes past three. He said that in the first place the defence set up was a plea of insanity, and secondly, assuming that that defence failed, that there were circumstances in the case which reduced the crime committed by the prisoner from the serious crime of murder to the less serious crime of manslaughter. He could not help thinking that these two defences were not quite consistent one with the other. A defence of insanity rather involved the idea that the case for the Crown was to be considered as bad and as aggravated as it could possibly be, and therefore the act of the prisoner all the more causeless, while on the other hand the defence of manslaughter involved a tumbling down or explanation of the evidence given for the Crown so as to show that provocation was given, to prisoner to induce him to commit the homicide. With regard to the defence of insanity, they would have to come to a verdict of guilty of murder or not guilty of murder on the ground of insanity. With regard to the second defence, assuming they could not say that the man was insane, they would have to enquire into the circumstances under which the act was committed—to say whether or not sufficient provocation was given to reduce the crime from murder to manslaughter. After dealing with the questions of law, the Chief Justice asked, what were the facts of this case in regard to this plea of insanity? There were some seven witnesses called on behalf of prisoner. He thought the evidence for prisoner might be said to be remarkable for what it did not contain. It did not contain the evidence of any medical man. He supposed prisoner was now something like 30 years of age, and they would

imagine that he must have passed through the hands of medical men in this colony or Macao in the course of time, although they would have some knowledge of his mental characteristics. They had further no evidence of any hereditary taint of insanity in the family, and that of course always had an important bearing on a defence of this kind. In regard to prisoner himself some seven witnesses were called to speak of various acts more or less showing eccentricity and abnormal mental character on his part. The Chief Justice reviewed the evidence of these witnesses, and continuing said that they had on the other hand with regard to this general question of insanity the evidence of Dr. Atkinson, Dr. Thompson, and Dr. Lowson. It was not for the Crown to show that a man was sane. It was for the prisoner to make out that he was not sane, but in all cases of this kind where the defence of insanity was set up, no doubt it was more satisfactory to the jury that the medical officers who had more or less had him under observation should be called to give evidence with regard to his mental state. These medical officers apparently had not had prisoner specially under observation with regard to this question of insanity until this last week or so. The result of the examinations made by these three medical officers was that so far as they could form an opinion from the interviews they had with prisoner he was of sound mind. Of course this did not conclude the matter. These examinations took place some five or six weeks after the occurrence, and what they had to direct their attention to was the man's state of mind at the time of the occurrence. But what the doctors said was that if insanity existed on the 9th of May they would have expected to find traces on the 16th of June and the few following days when they examined him. The Chief Justice then made some observations on the facts of the case, after which he touched on the question of manslaughter, giving the law on the point. It was a quarter-past five when his lordship concluded his remarks, his summing up having occupied just over two hours.

The jury retired to consider their verdict returning after an absence of six or seven minutes.

The Clerk of the Court (Mr. Seth)—Gentlemen, have you agreed upon your verdict? How say you? Do you find Joan de Matta Ozorio guilty or not guilty?

The Foreman (Mr. Herbert Smith)—Guilty of wilful murder.

The Clerk—And are you unanimous?

The Foreman—Unanimous.

The Clerk (to prisoner)—Have you anything to say why the sentence of death should not be passed upon you? Have you anything to say to the court?

Prisoner made no reply, seeming somewhat dazed, as if he hardly realised what was said to him.

The Clerk again repeated—You have been found guilty of wilful murder.

The Interpreter (Mr. Pereira) translated this to him.

Prisoner then broke out first in Portuguese and then in English—I say that I am not guilty. My conscience says I am not guilty. The fault was committed by the old woman, by the daughter, and by my fiancée. I asked my fiancée to accompany me—to go to the house of my sister. The old woman and the eldest daughter would not allow it.

The Chief Justice (to the interpreter)—Explain to him we do not want an account of what happened. We only want to know if he has anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him.

Prisoner (in Portuguese)—I wanted to say so that the public might hear me.

The Chief Justice—We do not want to hear that now. We only want to know if he has anything to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him.

Prisoner (in Portuguese)—I am not guilty. If I did kill that man I do not know how it was. I lost my head at the time the fire-arm was discharged.

The Chief Justice—Have you anything else?

Prisoner (in Portuguese)—Anything else I can say will break the hearts of all here.

The Chief Justice having put on the black

cap said—Joan de Matta Ozorio. You have been found guilty on what I take to be very clear evidence of the offence with which you are charged. You have had a long and careful trial and a very full and able defence by your learned counsel. I am not going to make remarks on your crime because I do not wish to add pain to what you must feel. I will only beg you to endeavour by prayer and contrition to make your peace.

Prisoner (in English)—I need not, because my conscience is clear.

The Chief Justice (continuing)—The sentence of the court on you is that you will be taken hence to the place from whence you came and thence to the place of execution, and that you will be there hanged by the neck until you be dead, and that your body be buried in such place as His Excellency the Governor shall order. And may the Lord have mercy on your soul!

Prisoner was then removed. He was conveyed from the Court to the Central Police Station in a covered chair escorted by a body of police.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

THE SITUATION IN MANILA.

THE SPANIARDS TAKE HEART.

PREPARING FOR A VIGOROUS RESISTANCE.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE GERMANS

THE SPANISH RELIEF SQUADRON.

28th June.

Owing to the straits to which the Spaniards in Manila had been reduced the Governor-General was at one time strongly in favour of surrendering to the Americans, but the attitude taken up by the Germans and the news that another Spanish fleet is on its way to the Philippines has put fresh heart into the Governor-General, and despatches which arrived yesterday by the German steamer *Petrarch*, which left Manila last Friday, express the opinion that on the arrival of the American troops—and 5,000 of them were expected to sail into the Bay on Sunday—and Admiral Dewey demanding the surrender of the city the Spaniards instead of throwing up the sponge would show fight. With this object in view the Spaniards had renewed their exertions and commenced strengthening their defences, placing sand bags all round the walls, digging rifle pits, and polishing up their cannon. Though the Spaniards might be able to hold out for some time against the rebels and the Americans if only attacked by land they will be practically helpless against a bombardment.

Apparently the Governor-General is trusting to the German squadron to prevent this catastrophe, for he has issued a proclamation in which he declares that the Germans are sure to keep the Americans from bombarding and capturing the city, adding that there is a strong fleet coming out and that before long the Spanish and German vessels will drive the Americans out of the Harbour. He, therefore, urges the inhabitants to do everything they can to resist the enemy. By the way the Germans, who are commanded by Vice-Admiral von Diederichs, have at present five vessels at Manila, and it is reported that they will shortly be reinforced by the *Deutschland* (with Prince Henry) and the *Gefion*. Great preparations are being made for the Prince's reception.

There is a strong feeling among the British residents that despite the additions which have recently been made to our squadron at Manila, it is advisable to send still more and larger vessels there, in order to keep up our prestige. The anti-British feeling shows no signs of abating, and though as yet nothing serious has happened to any of the British residents their position is becoming more and more precarious. The British have chartered ships of the Maritima Company, which now lie at anchor close to the *Immortalite*, where they will all take refuge at once if things come to a crisis. The two British banks, which are only open for three hours each day, have placed money on H.M.S. *Immortalite* for safe keeping.

and most of the British firms have closed their premises and sent their books and valuables on board the ships in the Bay. The consuls have endeavoured to induce the Spaniards to grant a neutral zone but have not been successful.

Vice-Admiral Von Diederichs has asked General Aguinaldo to turn over to him the wife and five children of the Governor General, but the Insurgent leader has refused the request point-blank. He said that he wanted them for his own protection. Governor-General Augustin had put a price—\$25,000—on his head and until he withdrew it he should hold his wife and children.

One of the principal encounters between the Spaniards and Insurgents last week was one which resulted in the death of General Monet, the Governor of the Province of Pampangas, and the taking of 1,000 Spanish prisoners. The Insurgents had surrounded the Governor and some 1,200 troops in San Fernando, and he lost his life in endeavouring to cut his way through, his troops throwing down their arms in despair when they saw that their leader had fallen.

General Aguinaldo has removed his capital to Imus, so that the Americans can have Cavite for the use of their troops.

At the request of Admiral Dewey General Aguinaldo has allowed 153 sick and wounded soldiers to go to Manila on parole.

A couple of Spanish torpedo boats at Manila have up to the present managed to keep out of the way of the Americans, who have their searchlights at work every evening chance they might endeavour to creep up to any of their vessels and do them damage.

Last night Consul-General Wildman received the following wire from Mr. Broadbent, U. S. Consul at Port Said:—

"Warships and troopers 12 now in port—*Pelayo*, *Emperador*, *Emperador Carlos V.*, *Rapido*, *Ambagado*, *Prosperina*, *Caradonga*, *Patria*, *San Francisco*, *Buenos Aires*, *Colon*, *Isleabancy*."

Probably some slight errors have crept in with regarded to some of the above names in wiring, but it will be observed that the squadron is a very strong one. We shall not be surprised to hear of it being recalled, however, before the Indian Ocean is reached. The squadron comprises the battleship *Pelayo*, cruisers auxiliary cruisers, and torpedo vessels.

The following official letter from the Consul for Spain at Hongkong to the Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish fleet in the Philippines is published in the *Comercio*:—

"I have the greatest pleasure in bringing to the notice of your Illustrious Excellency that Ensign Caldwell, Secretary of Rear-Admiral Dewey, has stated in the English Club here that from his chief downwards every officer of the North-American fleet admired the bravery and heroism by your Illustrious Excellency and the captains, officers, and crews of the Spanish vessels; and not content with this, he called upon me to tell me the same and thus to render homage of admiration to the noble Spanish sailors. With my heart full of patriotic pride I offer to your Illustrious Excellency and the valiant men who fought under your orders my most enthusiastic congratulations, in which the Vice-Consul and Secretary of this Consulate unite."

The following from the *Washington Post* relative to Mr. Rounseville Wildman will be of interest here:

"The front name of Rounseville Wildman, our Consul at Hongkong, who cabled the first news of the *McCulloch's* arrival, is a hideous modern corruption of the knightly Roncevalles, and writers and printers made so many bad staggers at it that Mr. Wildman never uses anything but the initial R," said Eben Brewer of Pittsburg at the Normandie.

Mr. Brewer, who has just been appointed United States postal agent in Cuba, was chief clerk and assistant to Colonel George L. Davis, director of the Chicago exposition, and the following story regarding Wildman, is vouched for by him as authentic:

"Wildman, then consul at Singapore, was employed by the exposition managers to secure exhibits from the island of Borneo, and on reaching Chicago with a splendid collection he felt himself entitled to one of the gorgeous commissions which the exposition people issued

to their representatives. Instructions for filling out the document were given to Richard Lee Fearn, the well-known Washington correspondent, at that time secretary of the foreign affairs department of the exposition.

"Fearn designated to the penman who was to do the lettering a very heavy Gothic black letter text, in which the 'R' could hardly be distinguished from an 'A.' The result was that to a casual glance the only features that appealed to the reader were the big gold seal and the legend:

"A WILDMAN.

"BORNEO.

"And so it hung in the editorial sanctum of the *Overland Monthly*, where Mr. Wildman did some very graceful literary work up to the date of his appointment by President McKinley to the Hongkong consulate."

27th June.

The *Sunkiang*, which arrived in the harbour yesterday, reports that all is quiet at Iloilo, which she left on the 22nd. All was going on as usual. There were no warships there and no signs of the insurgents. She heard nothing of the American troops.

The *Doric* arrived yesterday, having left Honolulu on the 4th instant. The troop ships were then at Honolulu but left a few hours before the *Doric*, and it was estimated that by averging eight knots an hour—one of the vessels being a poor sailer—they would reach Manila yesterday morning. Therefore, in all probability the Stars and Stripes by this time wave over the city. Consequently if the Spaniards do send another fleet to the Philippines the Americans will have plenty of time in which to prepare to give them a warm reception.

The troopships (which are being convoyed by the *Charleston*) and those aboard are as follows:—

Australia—General Thomas M. Anderson; Major S. R. Jones, Quarter-master; Captain H. P. McCain; Lieutenant S. E. Cloman; Lieutenant E. W. Clark; Oscar King Davis, correspondent *New York Sun*; headquarters N. C. S., band and Companies A. B. C. D. E. G. H. K. and L. Second Oregon Infantry, United States Volunteers; Lieutenant Holcombe, United States Navy.

City of Peking—Headquarters N. C. S., band and Companies A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. L. and M. First California United States Volunteers, Commander Gibson, eight officers and seventy-six enlisted men, United States Navy.

City of Sydney—Band and Companies A. C. D. E. and F. Fourteenth United States Infantry, detachment Batteries A. and D. First Battalion First California Heavy Artillery, United States Volunteers; Lieutenant-Commander Phelps, United States Navy; Chief Engineer Chalker and twenty seamen, revenue cutter service; Major P. G. Eastwick, Jr., and Companies F. I. and M. Second Oregon Infantry, United States Volunteers.

29th June.

On receiving the telegram announcing the arrival of the Spanish fleet at Port Said Consul-General Wildman, with his usual energy, at once set about securing a special steamer to convey the news to Admiral Dewey without loss of time. The steamer left yesterday.

The Spanish squadron which has arrived at Port Said, and whose alleged destination is the Philippines, appears to consist of six fighting vessels and six transports. The following is a description of the fighting vessels as far as we have been able to gather it from Brassey:—

Pelayo, armoured cruiser, barrette ship, steel, 9,900 tons, length 330 ft., beam 66 ft., draught 24 ft. 11 in., propellers 2, i.h.p. 9,000, built at La Seyne, launched 1887, received new armament 1897; armour: 17½ in. belt, 19½ in. gun position, 4 in. deck plating; guns: two 12.5 in. 48 ton, two 11 in. 38 ton, nine 5.5 in. quick firers, six smaller, 12 machine; torpedo tubes 7, speed 16 knots, normal coal supply 800 tons, complement 600.

Emperador Carlos V., armoured cruiser, turret ship, steel, 9,235 tons, length 380 ft., beam

67 ft., draught 25 ft., propellers 2, i.h.p. 18,500, built at Cadiz, launched 1895; armour: 2 in. belt, 10 in. gun position, 6½ in. deck plating; guns: two 11 in. (Hontoria), eight 5.5 in. quickfirers, four 3.9 in., two 2.7 in., four 2.2 in., 6 machine; torpedo tubes 6, speed 20 knots, normal coal supply 1,200 tons, complement 535.

Colon, by which is no doubt intended the *Cristobal Colon*, armoured cruiser, steel, 6,840 tons, length 328 ft., beam 58 ft. 9 in., draught 24 ft., propellers 2, i.h.p. 14,000, built at Sestri Ponenti, launched 1896; armour: belt 6 in. Harvey steel, gun position 6 in. Harvey steel, deck plating 1½ in.; guns: two 10 in., ten 6 in., quickfirers, six 4.7 in., ten 2.2 in. ten 1.4 in., 2 machine; torpedo tubes 4, speed 20 knots, normal coal supply 1,000 tons, complement 450.

Rapido, torpedo gunboat, steel, 570 tons, length 190 ft., beam 23 ft., draught 10 ft. 4 in., propellers 2, i.h.p. 2,600, built at Carraca, launched 1891; guns: two 4.7 in. (Hontoria), four 2.2 in. quickfirers, 1 machine; torpedo tubes 2, speed 18 knots, normal coal supply 106 tons, complement 80.

Prosperina, torpedo boat destroyer, built at Clydebank, launched 1897, length 225 ft., beam 25 ft. 6 in., draught 5 ft. 8 in., screws 2, 400 tons, i.h.p. 7,500, maximum trial speed, 30 knots; armament: two 14 pr., two 6 pr., two 1 pr.; torpedo tubes 2, complement 70, coal capacity 90 tons.

Buenos Aires, not given in Brassey, but described elsewhere as an auxiliary cruiser.

The *Emperador*, *Ambagado*, *Caradonga*, *Patria*, *San Francisco*, and *Isleabancy* are no doubt the transports.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN MANILA BAY.]

Manila Bay, 23rd June.

The chief subject of discussion in Manila, in Cavite, and in the American fleet is the meaning of the presence of five German men-of-war and one transport or supply vessel in port.

I have just interviewed one of the leading Englishmen here on the subject, and he unhesitatingly informed me that all the foreigners in Manila as well as the Spaniards regarded it as a remarkable demonstration. "I am sure," he continued, "that the Spaniards here received great encouragement from such a naval display. A Spaniard to-day told me that the coming of the large German squadron was construed by him and the leading Spanish officials as a direct act of friendly interest and to warn the Yankees that they could not go too far. Now when a Spaniard of influence, as this man was, will talk like that I think it is high time to ask what the Germans mean by appearing here in such force."

"I am familiar," my informant continued, "with all German interests in Manila, and my relations with Germans are very agreeable, and I am positive that one German cruiser would be fully able to protect them to every extent they required. One of my German friends remarked to me even so far back as when the *Irene* and *Cormoran* came that he did not see why his Government should send more than one such vessel. Even were it granted, now that Germany has undertaken to protect Portuguese subjects, that more vessels were needed, the *Irene* and *Cormoran* would amply suffice, as these people are not taken on the men-of-war if they wish to leave the city, but on merchantmen in the harbour flying the German flag."

When I asked him what ought to be done in the matter, he replied, "As an Englishman I would say that we should have two or three more men-of-war sent here at once, and, if Germany lifts her finger to indicate that she intends to have a say as to the situation or final disposition of the islands in order that she may get part of them or even a port in them, say to her, hands off—aside from all question of American interests. Were I an American I should be tempted to tell the Germans that they must explain at once what they mean by assembling here in such numbers, and I shall be surprised if the Government at Washington does not instruct its Minister at Berlin to demand an explanation. Were I Admiral Dewey I might think differently than I do now, because he probably knows more about it than I do, but otherwise, if I were he, I should gently suggest to the German Admiral that I regarded the massing of five German men-of-war here when

the port was practically in the hands of the Americans as a piece of impertinent and unjustified interference."

"Mind you," he said in conclusion, "I am not saying anything against Germans as Germans, but against the methods of a government which if they were those of any other under similar conditions I would criticise most severely. Mark my word, that the presence of the German fleet here bodes some kind of unpleasantness, and it may come sooner than is expected. I hope Captain Chichester, in whom I have great confidence, has fully informed our Admiral, and that a British squadron will not be slow in appearing on the scene."

While these remarks are pointed and somewhat severe, they were said to me in good faith by a man of quality and standing, who of course under the circumstances could not permit the use of his name. I am not in a position to express an opinion myself, but if what I have heard other men say is any criterion sentiment is very strong among Britishers and Americans against the German display of naval force.

The German warships now here are the *Kaiserin Augusta* (Admiral von Diederichs), *Kaiser*, *Princess Wilhelm*, *Irene*, and *Cormoran*, with one transport bringing supplies for the squadron.

It is reported on good authority that they will be supplemented by the *Deutschland*, with Prince Henry, and the *Gefion*. I think it doubtful if both come, but it would not be surprising if one did. If the Prince actually visits Manila he may bring the *Deutschland*, if she can stand the trip from Shanghai or whatever port she last leaves in good condition.

Speaking of the *Deutschland* reminds me of the *Castilla* of the destroyed Spanish squadron. The only wooden vessel in the battle of Manila Bay was the *Castilla*, 3,342 tons, built at Cadiz in 1881, with an excellent and formidable battery of breach loading Krupp guns, but with a hull that has done no credit to her builders, as recent events have proved. The war vessel, only sixteen years old, has been towed about as a floating battery simply because the working of her engines has caused her to leak so badly that it has been impossible to send her to sea under steam. I have made a careful examination of the wrecked hull of this vessel, as she lies aground in Cavite Bay burnt to the water's edge. Everything points to "jerry" construction. The whole of the bulwarks and sides are burnt down to below the main deck, leaving a thick row of her iron fastenings right round the vessel, which are only six inch spike nails, with an entire absence of bolts either iron or copper except where they have gone through knees. The miserable construction of this vessel is no doubt the cause of her being incapable for useful active service except in the cruel manner in which she was employed—to place a crew on board and leave them as a target for certain destruction by the enemy. Few Spaniards that have ever fought have been at greater disadvantage than the brave crew of the *Castilla*.

Farther details of the great fight of May 1st filter through from the high officials of Manila as time passes. It now appears, according to authentic information in the hands of Consul Williams, that out of 491 men on the *Keina Cristina* 364 were killed; only 127 left the ship. An officer who was aboard and now in prison tells me that one could not step a foot in any direction on her decks without coming in contact with pieces of flesh for dead bodies. Such was the power of the American guns and the skill of the American gunners.

General Monet, the distinguished Spanish Governor of Pampangas province, has fallen in battle, shot through the head and heart while bravely leading his forces in a fight against the insurgents. All honour, I say, to his memory. I admire a brave man whether American, Spanish, or Britisher; and here is the first high Spanish military officer who has preferred to die rather than be made an easy prisoner by his foes. He was shut up in San Fernando with 1,200 Spaniards. They were surrounded and besieged by nearly an equal number of insurgents. Seeing starvation staring them in the face, they made a determined effort to break through the rebel lines and reach Macabebe, led by General Monet. In the action that followed he was killed. This took

away all the courage and spirit of the Spaniards so that about 1,000 of them laid down their arms. The insurgent leader was Colonel Eugene Blanco, who has proved himself on other occasions to be a daring fighter.

Captain-General Augustin's family are living in a little town in Pampangas surrounded by the rebels and at their mercy. Influence has been brought to bear on General Aguinaldo to return them to Manila, but he says that they are not yet actually in his hands and if they are taken prisoners they will be kindly treated. As long as General Augustin has offered \$25,000 for the head of Aguinaldo it is a little difficult to arrive at a system of logic by which he can expect the rebel leader to show him any particular courtesy.

Aguinaldo has removed his headquarters to a larger and finer house in Cavite, formerly occupied by the Spanish Governor of the province. Every precaution is taken to protect him against possible assassination or poisoning by spies or hired desperadoes.

The *Kwong Hoi* arrived recently with a large supply of provisions, which will be used to stock a store in Cavite. It was risky to cross the China Sea in such a river craft, but Capt. Mackenzie says that she stood it like an ocean liner. The most welcome part of her cargo was ice, but so much of it melted en route that it is not probable that much profit was realised from its importation.

The insurgents themselves need rifles more than food supplies. At the present writing they have about 7,000 armed men in active operations, and hope to put 10,000 more into the field within the next ten days.

The American squadron has moved further into Cavite harbour, so as to receive the protection afforded by Sanglay point in the south-west monsoon; not for the big ships themselves but for the multitude of smaller craft, launches, &c., that are in use day and night and form the "mosquito" fleet.

All the men-of-war in the Bay were dressed on Monday, the 20th, in honour of Queen Victoria's Accession day, and presented a beautiful sight. The breeze was strong and the flags and bunting showed to best advantage. At noon salutes were fired and what with the European squadron at one end of the Bay and the American at the other banging away, it was easy to imagine that a battle was in progress.

The weather is delightful. Cool breezes blow all day, and the nights are always favourable to sleep. The health of the American squadron is excellent and the men are in the best of spirits, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the *Charleston* and troop ships. Everything is in readiness for the latter. They are now due and barring accidents may arrive at any moment during the next six to eight days. They will be given a hearty welcome by the American forces already here and trained in battle, who are longing for another contest.

A constant look-out is kept by the Americans for torpedo attacks, and it would seem impossible for any small craft to approach them at night without being destroyed before any damage could be done.

The news from inside the city indicates that the Spaniards are making plans to offer vigorous resistance to both the insurgent and American forces. New forts are being erected and old ones strengthened. Rifle pits are being prepared and great piles of sand bags are being placed in front of weak defences. Food is exceedingly scarce, and the insurgents have cut off communication with the interior. Fighting is still going on at different points around Manila. On Monday night a severe engagement occurred at Maytubig to the south of Manila. About 400 insurgents attacked the Spanish fortifications holding nearly 2,000 men. The latter were so frightened that they summoned reinforcements. When the insurgents stopped firing fully 5,000 more Spanish and native auxiliaries had arrived on the scene. In other words, fully 7,000 Spanish troops were required to drive back the plucky rebels.

Many new officers and assistants for Aguinaldo arrived on the *Kwong Hoi* from Hongkong. The full staff of General Aguinaldo now in Cavite are Jose Lebarde, Juan Arevalo, L. L. Zialcita, Eugenio Plona, Lazaro Makapagal,

Ednardo Lanera, Julio Infante, Severino Roten, Benito Natividad, and Jose Leyba.

The *Emeralda* arrived on Monday, anchored for a few hours near the flagship, delivered mails and despatches, and then steamed over to the anchorage off Manila. They will probably load Chinese for Amoy. The British bark *Croton* of Germany is ready to sail for Amoy with 1,000 Chinese aboard. The *J. Y. Troop* left recently after unloading her coal. The *Honolulu* is still here with some 400 tons in her hold, which is being gradually unloaded as required.

The *Zafiro* has gone to Hongkong, but is expected back on Friday morning or Thursday night. Before this letter reaches Hongkong the *Baltimore* will have returned with the *Charleston* and troop ships.

The latest intelligence points to another big battle of combined water and land forces within the next ten days.

Since my interview with an Englishman quoted at the beginning of this letter, another British man-of-war has arrived, and there are rumours rife that two or three more may follow. If so his hopes will be gratified and no American will be sorry.

The Manila papers continue to publish monstrous stories about the Americans, and do not hesitate to employ the most contemptuous epithets, all of which are whetting the appetites of the Americans to get even with them for these uncalled for insults.

The *Bonaventure* has arrived and was welcomed by Americans as well as Britishers. It is reported that two or more British men-of-war will arrive in a few days. Now that the effect desired is created the Germans are sending away two of their men-of-war, according to statements of their officers.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On the 30th June a meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The chair was occupied by the President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer), the Vice-President (the Hon. F. H. May, Captain-Superintendent of Police), the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. E. W. Brewin (Acting Registrar General), and Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were adopted as a correct record.

THE INSANITARY PROPERTIES QUESTION.

The PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the order of the day—the report of the Board on the Insanitary Properties Commission's report—said he would state that the reason why the report had been somewhat delayed was that the Board felt that it required most careful consideration, as it was one of the most important matters which had been brought before the Board within his recollection. He would not say more as the report spoke for itself.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in supporting the resolution, said he had no doubt the Government would take the report into its most serious consideration, and he was not without hope that the public itself would also read the report carefully and give it its fullest consideration. Without the support of the public no Government could successfully legislate. In sanitary matters they wanted to carry the public with them, and all he could say was that it entirely depended upon what legislative action was taken on the Board's report as to what the sanitary future of the colony would be. He would only instance one particular, and that was the re-erection of insanitary dwellings on existing sites. This was perhaps the most important matter dealt with in the report, and the Board had expressed surprise that the majority of the commission should not advert to it at all. It was only in an addendum to the commission's report by a minority of members that the question was touched upon at all. If something was not done, and done quickly, to stop the erection of insanitary dwellings on existing sites in this city all he could say was that there was no salvation for the city of Victoria at all. If any one wanted an object lesson let him go down to the pile of buildings, now almost completed, on the site of the old Victoria

should undertake the daily collection of night-soil from private premises, on the lines laid down in the specification submitted to the Government by the Sanitary Board in 1896. . . . Apart from the desirability on general sanitary grounds that night-soil should, especially in a tropical climate, be removed from dwelling-houses as early as possible, we would point out that such removal is rendered still more important where plague prevails. It is now recognised that the excreta of plague infected persons are highly infectious, and we cannot but view with the gravest concern the continuance of the present system under which, for purposes of economy, night-soil is not removed daily from the dwellings of the poorer classes of Chinese. We feel that, with proper explanation, the opposition of the Chinese to the scheme can be overcome. It is confined altogether to the richer classes, who are under a complete misapprehension as to the powers and authority of the Government night-men if they think that there will be any invasion of their domestic privacy."

BACK TO BACK HOUSES.

The Board then refers to the recommendation made by Dr. Clark at page 13 of the report that section 66 of the Public Health Ordinance, No. 24 of 1887, should be amended so as to apply with some modifications to all new buildings erected in future. Dr. Clark pointed out that under the existing law "there is no power to prevent the erection of back-to-back houses except upon land purchased from the Crown after the passing of Ordinance 24 of 1887, which practically means that the whole of the City outside of Taipingshan can be re-erected with back-to-back houses." After summarising the evidence on this point the Board says:—

"The balance of the evidence is therefore in favour of Dr. Clark's recommendation, but in spite of that fact the recommendation is not even alluded to in the body of the report. Fortunately, two of the Commissioners—Messrs. Whitehead and Ede—the latter of whom was a member of the Sanitary Board for 13 years, recognised the importance of Dr. Clark's suggestion and supported it in an addendum to the report which we have already quoted in paragraph No. 8 but which we may for facility of reference again quote here:—'Upon mature consideration we strongly recommend that the further erection of dwelling-houses of a greater depth than 30 feet, which cannot be ventilated and lighted on each floor from the back as well as from the front, should be absolutely prohibited, and such ventilation should be provided by means of an open space, or yard, of an area not less than one-eighth of the area occupied by the building.' We regret that Messrs. Whitehead and Ede should have eliminated houses of a depth of 30 feet and under from their recommendation. We have shown in paragraph No. 6 that dwelling-houses for the lower classes of Chinese of whatever depth should have light and ventilation at the back, and we cannot therefore agree to the elimination proposed."

"In our opinion it will be disastrous to the future sanitary condition of Victoria if steps are not immediately taken to prevent the further erection of insanitary dwellings in the City."

"The effect of the want of control in that direction is well exemplified by the blocks of buildings at present being erected on the site of the old Victoria Hotel, and on the east side of Cochrane Street between Wellington Street and Stanley Street."

"The houses in these two blocks are all back-to-back, and will be in no respect better lighted or ventilated than the houses referred to in the Colonial Surgeon's Report of 15th April, 1874, and which he strongly condemned when he wrote 'in future no houses should be built without sufficient yard space at the back, and in no case should they be built back-to-back.'"

"In their report of the 29th of June, 1894, the Permanent Committee of the Sanitary Board advised 'that in any Ordinance to be passed the erection of blocks of houses back-to-back shall be absolutely prohibited, and that every house to be hereafter built shall be required to have at the back or one end of it an open public scavenging lane.' In the same report we find it stated that 'light and air are the best preservatives against plague,' an opinion which we most fully endorse, and we say that

until means are adopted to thoroughly and effectually light and ventilate the dwellings of the teeming population of this city, so long may we look to the recurrence of the scourge which has already cost the community so much, and which will, as long as its visitations continue, always seriously injure the prosperity of the colony."

HEIGHT OF BUILDINGS.

On this subject the Board says:—

"In conclusion, we would express the strong opinion that the height of buildings in relation to the width of the streets upon which they front, as provided for in section 12 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, is in excess of what can be regarded as sanitary, and we strongly recommend that this section be repealed and that in lieu thereof it be enacted that no domestic building to be erected in future shall exceed in height one and a half times the width of the street upon which such building fronts, and that the width of any street shall be measured from the building lines, as defined by the Director of Public Works, on either side of such street, and at right angles to such line or lines."

"The surface-crowding in Victoria is already excessive, especially in the central portion of the city, and we notice with apprehension the tendency to increase the height of buildings on re-erection."

"Unless the height of buildings at present authorised and which we consider excessive is curtailed, the sanitary condition of the city even with the enforcement of the open spaces we have recommended, will be little improved, for the increased height of buildings will discount the wider spaces at their rear."

ASSAULT ON AN INDIAN CONSTABLE.

A GERMAN ROMEO.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday, before Commander Hastings, a German bookkeeper was charged (1) with unlawfully setting his dog on an Indian constable while in the execution of his duty; and (2) with assaulting the same constable while in the execution of his duty.

Complainant said that at half-past one that morning he was on his beat when he saw defendant. He called to him, as it was so late, saying "What have you got to do here?" whereupon defendant abused him, and refused to come to the Police Station when requested. He called a Chinese constable to his assistance. Defendant set his dog on him and it bit him on the left leg. Witness added that his suspicions were aroused because he saw defendant climbing up to the verandah of a house.

A Chinese constable said defendant had climbed up to a window on the verandah. He refused to accompany them to the Police Station, and they had to drag him. Defendant had a dog with him, and he set it on the Indian constable, whom it bit.

Sergeant Fenton said that when in the Police Station defendant was very abusive. He put him in the side room, but he became so disorderly that he had to remove him to a cell outside.

Defendant, when asked if he had anything to say made a long statement. He said—About midnight I went to the house named. The young lady I wanted to see came out to the window. I climbed up to the window. About a quarter of an hour later I was still there when an English policeman passed the house. I did not come down from the window. He stopped, just looked up at me, and passed on. He did not say a word, but went quietly on. About ten minutes later an Indian policeman came. He stood still and looked at me. I waved to him, and spoke to the lady again, who had disappeared. Two minutes later a Chinese policeman came. He stopped, looked at me, and went on. I saw the Indian Constable advance quietly to the Chinese constable. I saw the Indian pointing to me. When he was about 20 steps from the house I waved to him, and he came quickly up to me, followed by the Chinese constable. When I saw this I took up my hat, put it on, and climbed down. When I got to the earth the Indian policeman sprang up to me with the words "You—fool." I admit I got very excited. They both got hold of me, and I shook them

off. The Indian caught me by the shoulder and the Chinese blew his whistle. I was furious. I said to the Indian constable in English, "I will go with you." He seemed not to understand. He was very excited, and kept gnashing his teeth. I was dragged by them to the Police Station. On the way I asked the Chinese constable what was the matter with the Indian constable. He said something in Chinese, adding "A new man, he no sabey." The Indian shook me. When I got to the Police Station I said to the sergeant. "Sir, I request you to arrest this Indian policeman, as he has very seriously insulted me." I was told I was a prisoner. I do not think the sergeant listened to my words properly. He kept saying if I would keep quiet and behave like a gentleman, he would treat me like one.

Commander Hastings told defendant he was in a very equivocal position, seeing that at about half-past one in the morning he was climbing up to a window, and the constable was right to call him down. Neither could speak the other's language, and under the circumstances the Indian constable was only doing his duty in arresting him. Defendant would be fined \$15 or a month for the first offence and \$20 or a month for the second.

THE CHARGE AGAINST A NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

WITHDRAWN.

At the Magistracy on Saturday the charge against Daniel McAllister, inspector of nuisances in the employ of the Sanitary Board, was withdrawn. Our readers will remember that he had been arrested on a charge of having unlawfully accepted, in his capacity of public servant, a bribe of \$20 with a view to incline him to do an act contrary to his duty as such public officer, namely, to refrain from reporting and causing the alteration of an illegal structure on the third floor of No. 6, Queen's Street, at Victoria, in this colony, contrary to the rules of honesty and integrity, on 17th inst.

THE OPENING OF CHINA'S WATERWAYS.

The *Echo Macaense* says:—"The regulations governing the navigation by steamers of all the rivers of China have already been formulated and published. From any ports open to foreign trade steam-launches may go to ports in the interior on any river of China. Nothing is said with respect to Macao and Hongkong. Will steam-launches be allowed to leave Macao for any port on the West River? Will the Lappa Customs be authorised to issue licences to such launches? Or will it be necessary that the launches shall clear from Canton, the open port of the province of Kwangtung? Will licences have to be obtained from the Canton Customs? If the first of these hypotheses is correct we will do well; if the second, we are lost altogether. The doubt ought to have been cleared up long ago."

With reference to the above, so far as we have been able to ascertain the regulations have been drafted but are not yet finally settled. As they stand, however, the inland waterways are only open to vessels that have cleared at the Customs at an open port. Consequently launches will not be able to go direct from Hongkong or Macao to any river port other than an open port, but will have to proceed first to an open port to clear. This disability will probably affect Macao more than Hongkong, but it is an unfortunate circumstance for both places. It might perhaps be possible to secure an amendment of the regulations in this respect, so that launches might be able to clear at the Kowloon or Lappa Customs.

Edward Allan Wallace Mackay, who has refused to give any account of his antecedents, was indicted in the Kobe Consular Court, before Mr. J. Carey Hall, on two counts for fraud. The first was for obtaining by false pretences from Inouye Mankichi of the Yaami Hotel, Kyoto, the sum of 50 yen, and the second with obtaining from Inouye Kichibei, cash and goods to the value of 100 yen by the same means. He was sentenced to six months' hard labour on each count, making twelve months in all.

THE HOOLEY-JAMESON SYNDICATE.

Mr. K. Frosell writes us:—It might interest you to know that the Hooley-Jameson Syndicate, Limited, was registered by E. T. Hooley, J. E. Jameson, and K. Frosell on the 30th of April and went to allotment immediately after. Its capital is 2½ million dollars and its Chairman is Sir William Des Voeux, ex-Governor of your city. The shareholders are Lord Crawford, of Balcarres, Lord Dashurst, Lord Ashburton, Lord Barclay of Ellesmere, E. J. Pope, capitalist, Mr. Hill, Chairman Nottingham District Bank, and Hooley, Jameson, and myself.

Mr. Hooley's late failure does not affect the Syndicate in the least, and neither Hooley himself, if I am truthful. His enormous fortune and the numerous law suits against him compelled him to ask for the court's assistance to settle his affairs once for all.

Our Syndicate possesses valuable coal and railway concessions in China and engineers are already on the way out here to commence the work.

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the meeting to be held at the Office of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, No. 9, Praya Central, on Tuesday 26th July, at noon:—

Gentlemen,—I beg to submit herewith a statement showing the manner in which the Liquidation of the above Company has been effected, to 15th November, 1897, the date of the incorporation and registration of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited (New Company.)

The assets, amounting to \$138,254.51, have been handed over by me to the New Company.

In accordance with the agreement entered into with the Punjom Mining Co., Limited (New Company) all shareholders, who have applied, have been granted shares in that Company in exchange for shares in the Old Company.

At date, 59,165 ordinary, and 28,599 preference shares, have been allotted.

JAMES B. DUNCAN,
Liquidator.

Hongkong, 18th June, 1898,

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 15TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

LIABILITIES		\$	c.
Ordinary capital, 60,000 shares at \$4 each		\$240,00	00
Preference capital, 30,000 shares at \$1 each		30,000	00
		270,000	00
Unpaid dividends for 1896		1,556	83
Accounts payable:—			
Director's fees from 1st October, 1896, to 15th November, 1897		2,812	50
Auditor's fees as per last statement		150	00
Royalty to Cassel Co. as per last statement		1,291	80
Insurance on gold, etc., as per last statement		868	35
Legal expenses as per last statement		5	00
Manager at Punjom		5,512	30
Syme & Co., Singapore agents		2,112	19
Deposit account with employees at Punjom		870	00
Amount overdrawn at Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Hongkong		1,033	43
Accumulated dividend on 30,000 preference shares from 1st October, 1896, to 15th November, 1897, at 12 per cent.—13½ cents per share		4,050	00
Proportion of November disbursements chargeable to old Company		6,758	95
		25,959	52
		\$297,516	35

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Cost of estate		155,000	00
Preference dividend, 1897		4,050	00
Balance at debit of working account on 15th November, 1897, as per statement annexed		211	84
Sundries taken over by the New Co., incorporated 15th November, 1897.			
Machinery and plant		\$48,000	00
Stores in stock at Punjom		18,478	05
Opium in stock at Punjom		2,322	00
Provisions in stock at Punjom		1,489	87
Buildings		9,228	25
Main shaft		10,000	00
Cyanide plant		12,255	36
Main and Klidah dams		3,000	00
Water wheel		8,000	00
Roads and bridges		2,093	15

Live stock	320	00
Head office furniture	301	60
Furniture at mines	976	54
Suspense account	143	05
Jas. Morrison & Co., Ltd.—London agents	2,415	76
Petty cash in hand in Hongkong	67	89
Cash in hand, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—Singapore	3,773	20
Cash in hand at Pekan agency	249	90
Amount advanced to telegraph master at Kwalla Lipis	17	92
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—dividend account, 1896	1,556	83
Accounts receivable:—		
Amount advanced on October winnings	\$9,178	72
Proportion of amount advanced on Nov. winnings \$4,386.42	13,565	14
	138,254	51
	\$297,516	35

WORKING ACCOUNT 1st OCTOBER TO 15th NOVEMBER, 1897

Dr.		\$	c.
To cost of mining	\$9,190	53	
To cost of milling	1,863	92	
To cost of calcining	392	30	
To cost of cyaniding	3,841	66	
	\$15,288	41	
To Sundry Charges:—			
Travelling expenses	\$	14	00
Upkeep of police		191	45
Charges on gold shipment		72	61
Gold purchases		369	57
		647	57
To head office expenses		642	13
To Manager's salary and office expenses		1,430	79
To agency fees and general expenses at Punjom		618	90
To royalty to Sultan of Pahang		1,072	26
To director's fees		312	50
To hotel and hospital expenses		382	81
To land cultivation		399	38
To interest		33	28
To Toh Kaya at Lipis		30	00
		\$20,894	34
Cr.		\$	c.
By balance brought forward from last account	\$	6,537	75
By gold Account:—			
Proceeds of gold won by milling	\$9,448	94	
Proceeds of gold won by calcining	1,244	23	
Proceeds of gold won by cyaniding	2,871	97	
	13,565	14	
By exchange account		60	00
By transfer fees		325	93
By profit on sale of stores		123	23
By profit on sale of provisions		70	39
By profit on sale of opium		519	55
By balance		211	84
		\$20,894	34

GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Co., general agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, advise us that they have received the following report from the manager at the mines, dated 30th May:—

My last report was dated the 7th inst. Since then matters have gone on well, and I am pleased to have nothing but good news to put before you.

Great Eastern Drive is now 22 feet East and 15 feet west. The drive east towards the main reef show stringers of quartz in the face, and we expect that a few more feet will cut it.

Zulu Main Shaft.—This is now down to 128 feet, with the new chute, which we have struck, running right through it from end to end, from north to south, so that we are now sinking on the course of the reef, getting out stone all the time as we are going down. The reef is fully 2 feet wide, of which I informed you by wire on the 30th May, having every indication of widening out with greater depth.

The stone we are getting out is very rich, nearly every piece showing gold to the naked eye, with heavy mineral, and as it seems to improve the more we are raising, it is difficult to say how rich it will be. It is without any doubt the northern chute, which we expected to cut some time since, and the fact of coming across it is another proof of the value of this acquisition.

We have already a few tons of ore in the pad-dock. The water is also less troublesome.

There is still a further piece of good news to tell from this claim. In lengthening the whip-road a few feet, the side of the hill near the

boundary of Mining Tenement 32, vide plan, had to be taken down a foot, called the Zulu Point, where the plan shows old workings, and after coming upon a few small floaters, we discovered below them a very promising reef with coarse gold sticking in the stone, the quartz being of the same class as the other chutes. It is still too early to say much about it, but as the find is already over 6 inches wide and is getting larger, with the stone showing gold freely, and as the course of this reef is parallel with the main lode, we have probably made a rich discovery. We are saving the loose stuff around the reef, as it is intersected with little pieces of quartz, showing good gold when washed in the dish. Old hands have always said that the Zulu Point would prove very rich, when properly opened up, and we are proving the truth of this now.

Rise and Shine.—We have struck the reef here also. The jumbled up ground and the uncertainty of information about the exact location of the old workings underground caused the long delay, but we have been rewarded for our perseverance by the finding of a very large body of ore, many feet wide. It must be the same reef as the Bank of England, for the quartz is exactly the same kind, as large a reef as in the latter shaft, and of the same richness. We are losing no more time in proving it, but continue the old shaft another 50 feet, a matter of only £150, as the shaft is only 3 by 6 feet wide, and then open out upon it, having fully located it now.

Bank of England is now 48 feet deep, and seems to improve as we are going down. The reef in this shaft is 7 feet wide, and we are raising splendid stone. The estimated quantity on grass is about 80 to 90 ton.

Caledonian Shaft.—We are busy cutting out chamber prior to driving for the reef. The depth of the shaft is 153 feet, which will be increased to 160 in order to have a well for the water, which is still very strong, but whilst this was a source of trouble formerly it is a very welcome addition now, as we are able to turn it into our dam, the excavation of which has been finished now, leaving only the squaring of the embankment and the bye washes to be done. The length of this large dam is over 300 feet, with a width of 120 feet at the upper half and about 100 at the lower one. The depth at the lower end from level of bye-wash to bottom of dam is about 25 feet, whilst the upper embankment enables us to back the water up to an average depth of 10ft. The lower embankment, which will be used as a road to cart the Zulu, Rise and Shine, and Bank of England stone over to the battery, is 30 feet wide and very strong, and a bridge of logs will be put over the byewash. No drought will empty this dam, when once full, and it will be sufficient for any increase in milling plant. The water from our Caledonian Shaft makes us independent of all dry weather, which is very much in evidence again.

THE SOUTH RAUB SYNDICATE.

A Syndicate has been successfully floated in Singapore to take up and thoroughly prospect certain areas, to the south of the Raub concession and abutting thereon, formerly prospected to some extent by the Malay Peninsula Prospecting Company. These comprise the gold workings formerly managed by Mr. Eldols, and a contiguous area on the opposite side of the narrow valley through which now passes the new Pahang trunk road, at this point almost continuous with the old Pahang bridge track lying between Rajah Impi's house and the Raub Village. It is the expectation of the syndicate that by proper exploration the reefs which are now being traced and worked through the Raub concession may continue in as well marked a way through the South Raub Syndicate's property, which is held on a lease granted by the Pahang Government, primarily, it is understood, to Mr. Osborne and Mr. Williamson Jones. The capital is \$50,000 in 500 shares of \$100, all of which are taken up locally. The South Raub Syndicate will start with a number of advantages as to transport facilities, labour, &c., not enjoyed by other Pahang companies, certainly not by the Raub Australian Gold Mining Company itself.

The new Syndicate has certainly very hopeful prospects before it, and its success will not only serve to confirm the already well established repute of the senior enterprise of Raub as a paying concern, but it will add confidence to other possible projects for the introduction of capital into gold-mining in Ulu Pahang.—*Free Press.*

THE PLAGUE.

During the week ended 25th June there were 11 new cases of plague and 11 deaths. The daily returns for the present week are as follows:—

	Cases	Deaths.
June 26th	4	4
" 27th	4	4
" 28th	1	1
" 29th	0	0
" 30th	0	0

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

PROFESSION PAIRS TOURNAMENT.

During the latter half of June the attention of members has been devoted to the above competition. Fourteen couples entered, and some interesting matches resulted. The winners of last year are again at the head of the list, after having tied with their opponents in the semi-final, and on replaying the match defeating them after a close game by 2 up and 1 to play. The first of the two rounds was halved by the winners in a masterly stroke at the last hole which overcame a most pronounced "stomie."

FIRST TIES.

Mr. E. E. Deacon and Mr. J. F. Noble (bankers), a bye.

Messrs. C. H. Grace and W. Taylor (nondescripts), allowing Capt. Hibbert and Lieut. Lethbridge (army) 4 strokes, were defeated by 6 up and 4 to play.

Messrs. A. S. Anton and A. J. McClure (bankers), allowing 3 strokes to Messrs. W. J. Saunders and G. T. Veitch (insurance), won by 5 up and 3 to play.

Messrs. P. A. Cox and G. Millward (shipping), receiving 1 stroke from Messrs. G. W. F. Playfair and H. Pinckney (bankers), were defeated by 5 up and 4 to play.

Messrs. G. Stewart and M. Stewart (finance), receiving 2 strokes from Dr. J. A. Lawson and Capt. R. Rumsey, R.N. (civil service), won by 3 up and 2 to play.

Messrs. C. W. May and P. de C. Morris (bankers), allowing 3 strokes, defeated Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple and C. A. Tomes (merchants) by 3 up and 1 to play.

Capt. Montgomerie, R.N., C.B., and Com. Taylor, R.N. (Navy), allowing 4 strokes to Messrs. H. Smith and E. F. Mackay, (merchants) won by 6 up and 4 to play.

Dr. J. M. Atkinson and Mr. H. P. Tooker (civil service) a bye.

SECOND TIES.

Capt. Hibbert and Lieut. Lethbridge, allowing 2 strokes, defeated Messrs. E. E. Deacon and J. F. Noble by 3 up and 1 to play.

Messrs. A. S. Anton and A. J. McClure, allowing 4 strokes to Messrs. G. W. F. Playfair and H. Pinckney, won by 4 up and 3 to play.

SEMI-FINAL.

Capt. Hibbert and Lieut. Lethbridge, receiving 5 strokes, defeated Messrs. A. S. Anton and A. J. McClure by 4 up and 2 to play.

Messrs. G. Stewart and M. Stewart, receiving 2 strokes defeated Messrs. C. W. May and P. de C. Morris, after a tie and round replayed, by 2 up and 1 to play.

FINAL.

Messrs. G. Stewart and M. Stewart, allowing 6 strokes, defeated Capt. Hibbert and Lieut. Lethbridge by 3 up and 2 to play.

The Naval representatives, who stood a very good chance of being in at the finish, were unfortunately obliged to scratch owing to H.M.S. *Bohaventure* being ordered away to Manila. Two of the civilians likewise scratched consequent on the indisposition of one of the pair.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR JULY.

This competition is fixed for Saturday, July 9th; to Monday, July 11th, and the

QUARTERLY MEETING FOR THE

MACWEN CUP, &c.,

will be held at the end of the following week.

CORRESPONDENCE

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

HON. DR. HO KAI AND COM-PRADORES' PROFITS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In your leader of to-day anent the report of the Blackburn Commercial Mission to China a certain passage occurs which, without explanation, would convey to the public erroneous impressions. It is as follows:—"Mr. Bourne afterwards quoted this remark to the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai and asked his opinion about it. Dr. Ho Kai said he doubted whether the compradore made double the profit of the firm on imports, but he certainly made as much." You will observe that as stated in the sentence immediately preceeding, Mr. Bourne was informed by an Englishman of experience in the interior that for every dollar a leading British firm in Hongkong made in the foreign import trade their compradore and his friends made two dollars. When this information was quoted by Mr. Bourne to me for my opinion, I stated that in my estimation the compradore and his friends (by this I understood and meant the numerous intermediaries besides the compradore that often come between a Hongkong foreign merchant and the Chinese traders who ultimately dispose of the goods) together made as much profit as the firm itself, but not twice as much. I never intended to say that the compradore himself and alone made an equal profit—that would be incorrect but that an equal profit was made by the compradore and those who come between the compradore and the native dealers who finally dispose of the goods, such as the brokers, commission agents, travelling traders, and such like persons carrying on a lucrative business in this colony.—I remain, yours faithfully,

HO KAI.

Hongkong, 24th June, 1898.

THE GRIEVANCES OF THE KOW-LOON CUSTOMS STAFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I your issue of the 24th June you were kind enough to reproduce an item from the *Union* upon the slow promotion in the outdoor Staff of the Kowloon Customs. Not only have they this grievance, Sir, but other's also, of a harsher kind. For twenty-nine days every month they are practically prisoners, for they have neither Sundays nor holidays excepting Chinese holidays and of these only a portion of any kind is granted. According to rule twenty-four hours should be granted once a month, but even this concession is not certain. Life on the frontier in mat sheds (shared by Chinese Braves) and Customs stations on the islands around Hongkong is under normal circumstances a life of deadly dullness; but when you work from morning till night and are completely deprived of liberty and have no relaxation of any kind for years, then men settle down to horrible, hopeless despair. Officers are constantly being discharged, or are forced to resign, from various assigned causes. But the true ones are never given, viz., complete deprivation of liberty and vexatious galling restrictions. It is indeed high time something was done for Kowloon, to better the lot of as hardworking and deserving a set of officers as are to be found anywhere. Contrast their lot with the indoor staff at Kowloon, or the outdoor at a treaty port, and you will find a wide, wide difference.—With the usual apologies, I am, etc., your obedient servant,

EX CUSTOMS.

Hongkong, 30th June, 1898.

P.S.—Custom-house officers are not allowed to give publicity to their grievances. In doing so they would be instantly dismissed from the service.

THE NEW RUSSIAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

M. de Giers, son of the former Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and himself formerly *Chargé d'Affaires* at Paris, and Russian Minister at Rio de Janeiro, has been appointed Russian Minister at Peking.—*N. O. Daily News.*

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

Peking, 21st June.

Russia has stopped Chinese war-ships having foreign officers from entering Port Arthur.

China resents this action and negotiations on the subject are proceeding.

The British Minister at Peking is reported to be assisting China.

Russia has raised objections to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank loan for the construction of railways in the North of China, alleging an infringement of the privileges accorded Russia in connexion with the Manchurian railway.

Russian demands from China the cession of the province of Ili (Kuldja).

[Ili, or Kuldja, is a province of Mongolia. It was seized by Russia in 1871, but was restored to China by treaty in 1879.]—*Nagasaki Press.*

THE NEW U. S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

Mr. Conger, the newly arrived United States Minister to China, was interviewed by a representative of the *N. O. Daily News* yesterday. His Excellency proved willing enough to converse on outside topics, but on the subject of politics he was distinctly reserved and non-committal. Questioned as to the commercial policy of the United States in China, Mr. Conger said there was nothing to say on that point that was not already known to the public, viz., that it was on the lines of the now famous "open door" policy, being that of a fair field and no favour to all nations alike. Knowing that His Excellency had already had his attention drawn to the need of the extension of the Foreign Settlements, our representative approached him on the subject. In reply, Mr. Conger said that he knew nothing of the subject except what he had gathered from the newspapers, but that during his stay in Shanghai he should devote a portion of his attention to it, and take the trouble to thoroughly post himself on the point, and on the result of his investigations would depend his action in the matter.

Mr. Conger is looked upon in official circles in the United States as being a very able man, though his actual diplomatic experience has been neither long nor varied. He was Minister to Brazil from 1890 to 1893 and was again appointed to that post last year, and held it for about eight months, when he was transferred to Peking. He was a Member of Congress for some years before his appointment to Brazil, and served with distinction on the Appropriation and other important Committees.—*N. O. Daily News.*

THE LOSS OF THE FU-CHING.

Port Arthur, 9th June.

A terrible disaster occurred here during the storm on the 9th instant, the Chinese cruiser *Fu-ching*, with a crew of 130 men, being lost. The chief officer and three sailors were the only members saved.

The *Fu-ching* arrived here at 2 p.m. on the 8th instant. The weather being foggy, she was unable to enter the harbour, and was obliged to anchor outside. Later the weather cleared up, but it remains unknown why she did not enter, although advised to do so by Captain Li, whose ship in dock is flying the Commodore's flag.

During the night the wind changed into a storm blowing from the south-west. About 6 a.m. on the 9th inst. the *Fu-ching* dragged her anchor, and was driven towards the shore. I believe they had no time to let the second anchor go, as it was tied to the ship, and remained in the same position when the vessel was on the rocks.

The *Fu-ching* was driven to the same spot at which three years ago a similar accident occurred. The wind swung her alongside the shore, with her bow pointing to the north, and commenced dashing her on the beach. Unfortunately she fell on her starboard side, opening her deck to the waves. The crew sought refuge in the rigging and on the upper bridge.

The Russian first-class cruisers lying in the roads could render no assistance to the disabled vessel, on account of their draught being too great to allow them to get alongside, nor could

they send any boats, as the sea was running high and the boats would have been lost if sent. The crews from the ships that were in harbour got to the wreck by land, and tried to save the crew of the *Fu-ching* by means of firing rockets with lines attached, but the Chinese did not know what to do with the lines that reached them, as they had never used them before.

The pupils of the Chinese Naval School on shore also came to the rescue, and tried by signalling to make the men on board understand how to use the lines. At one time the Chinese made an attempt to use the line, but whilst doing so a wave covered the vessel, and washed off several of the men. The others seeing this stopped the work. At this time the waves were nearly as high as the lighthouse, and in the narrow entrance from the roads to the harbour the water was seething.

The captains of the two Chinese men-of-war in harbour apparently considered the situation of the *Fu-ching* entirely hopeless, as they did not even send out a crew to the wrecked vessel.

At midday the *Fu-ching* was a total wreck, on which two or three men were still seen clinging to the ropes, but after a short time they also fell into the water.

It is generally believed here that the roads of Port Arthur during the N. and S. winds are very dangerous, and therefore the Chinese ships in summer used to stay at Wei-hei-wei. During such a storm as the one that raged on the 9th inst. any small ship anchoring outside would probably get lost. It is also believed that a large breakwater is required, so as to prevent such sad accidents in the future.—*Nagasaki Press*.

RAILWAY AND MINING DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA.

For some time past both home and Shanghai papers have been discussing a matter which in obedience to modern news requirements, we should have been the first to chronicle; we refer to the mining and railway concessions which have been granted in Shansi. We have of course been intimately acquainted with every phase of the negotiations which have just been concluded, but nothing was to be gained by referring to them until they reached a decisive stage, and much might have been lost by premature publicity.

While every year is decreasing the difficulty which surrounds any new venture in China, negotiations for the operation of Western enterprise must for the present be involved with complications and obstructions demanding the utmost skill and patience for their circumvention, and the less notoriety the process achieves the greater, as a rule, are the chances of success. The operations of the Peking Syndicate offer a striking and grateful contrast to those of the late Hooley-Jamieson combination, which billed its proceedings in every port, and made Reuter's cable quiver beneath conflicting announcements of alternate victory and defeat, only to subside, like some exhausted bubble, the moment it came in contact with the hard wall of fact. The Peking Syndicate, on the contrary, has been quietly sustaining a policy of persevering effort for over two years, and as far as obtaining *bona fide* concessions is concerned, have to be heartily congratulated upon a very successful issue. The contract which finally received the imperial seal very recently, confers the privilege of working the coal, iron, and petroleum mines of central and southern Shansi, which experts have pronounced one of the richest mineral provinces in China. The contract also confers the right to construct railways and cut canals to join trunk lines and navigable water-ways, without which the mining right would of course be valueless. No expense has been spared to verify at the hands of mining experts the glowing reports as to the producing capacity of the districts included in the concession, and not a word has been urged in its favour which cannot be substantiated.

The syndicate is powerfully backed at home, amongst those interested in it being, we believe, the Rothschilds, the Marquis of Lorne, and Messrs. Hambro, and the floating of the company to work the concession should, therefore, not be a work of either time or difficulty.

The granting of the concession has been accompanied, as was inevitable, by another to the

Russo-Chinese Bank, which has secured the right to construct a line from Tai-yuen-fu, the capital of Shansi, to Cheng-ting-fu in Chihli, with the privilege of forming branch lines and of conducting mining operations along the route.

These contracts open up an immediate prospect of railway as well as mining development in North China, and every mile of metal laid helps, as we well know, to hasten the operation of China's resuscitation, and drive another nail into the coffin of ignorance and superstitious fear.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

A GERMAN OPINION OF HONGKONG.

(Being one of the series of letters written by A. von Sonnenberg from the German transport *Krefeld* and afterwards from Kiaochau)

[SPECIALLY TRANSLATED FOR THE "SINGAPORE FREE PRESS."]

In summing up the impressions made by my stay in Singapore, lasting hardly four hours, I said in my last letter that the British Government has simply done marvels in its colonies, and these impressions are strongly confirmed in Hongkong, this powerful metropolis of the Far East, "Our Island" as the British like, and justly like, to call it.

Everything the visitor meets with in this town is done on an astonishingly large and liberal scale. Even the most exacting and critical eye can hardly find fault with anything here, and many a large European town might take a leaf out of the book of her Far Eastern sister, chiefly with regard to public life and public order.

Nothing, absolutely, is done poorly or meanly, everything is done largely and well and tending to render life as agreeable as possible to the British masters. Scrupulously clean, well laid out streets, electric light, elegant hotels, attractive shops, beautiful public gardens, in which nightingales make their home, all these are the noticeable features which attract the eye of the hurried visitor as he walks round the European quarter.

This is laid out round the beautiful harbour, more like a large lake, in which hundreds of ships, of all nations, come and go, exchanging the goods of all zones.

Proudly flies the British flag over the Governor's residence, situated in an elevated position in the middle of a splendid park and resembling a royal castle; near the harbour, overlooking the sea, you find the colossal statue of Queen Victoria, the Empress of India, and facing it, at a distance of hardly 250 yards, you see the *Powerful* at anchor, the most powerful cruiser in the world with her crew of 850. This is an undeniable proof of the fact that all this splendour and all these riches can only be gained and developed for the good of the nation, if a strong and powerful fleet of your own is always at hand, ever ready to protect.

Our poor little *Mücke*, which was seemingly built in the time of Noah, how she appeared ashamed of herself in the British hospital—the dock—to which she had to go, suffering from some incurable disease or other caught in the strain of her foreign service, and how she looked just like a pinnacle compared to the *Powerful*!

And yet, the volume of the German trade here nearly equals that of the British. Influential merchants of our own nationality have settled here, and in the magnificent, most splendidly appointed German Club are to be found at any time our compatriots, who are most highly respected here in this British town.

But please note; the respect is paid to the individual and to the successful merchant, and not *eo ipso* to the son of the powerful German Empire, which commercially stands second in the world and which, until a few months ago, did not possess a square-foot of territory on the Chinese coast, which latter, for the merchant and trader, seems to be a real gold mine.

Hundreds of our German compatriots have, therefore, put themselves under British protection and have made their fortunes here. The British flag protects them because their own has not been able to do so for the long, long years which we have idled away.

Out here everybody, however narrow his

views may have been formerly, must feel and realise that a great trading nation must indeed take a back seat, if it have not the power to unite abroad and protect under its own flag its wandering, fortune-seeking, money-making sons.

And out of those who in a foreign country make their fortunes, fifty in every hundred are lost to their own nation, not through any fault of their own, but through the inactivity and short sightedness of their own country, whose narrow views they can no longer understand nor excuse out here, where they meet every nation in the world, competing against each other in the struggle for life.

Similar to that of a national club in which the dispersed members of one nation meet on foreign soil, is the stimulus of the country's flag, but this must not be a flag in name only, it must be powerfully protected, and care must be taken that by no narrow view, brought over from bygone times, life and expansion beneath the German colours are hampered, or the easy going British rule will after all be preferred by most Europeans to the hundred and one German laws and regulations.

In both these directions, I think, we have still much to learn from our British cousins' experience in these matters, and when Germany has succeeded in doing in Kiaochau what England has done after possessing this small island for 50 years, only then can she rest.

Nature has been more than kind to our South-Chinese model. The splendid, beautiful bay is framed in by high mountains, which rise immediately out of the harbour, their slopes dotted with country houses, and the summit, called the "Victoria Peak," which is about 1,800 feet high, is covered with buildings. Well furnished hotels stand next to surprisingly comfortable barracks. Convalescent homes for soldiers and sailors are built here in the healthiest part of the island at such expense and with such comfort as would bring tears to the eyes of our Chancellor of the Exchequer. Every and most lavish care is taken to supply not only the necessities of life, but also to render existence as agreeable as possible. A cable train, running every quarter of an hour, connects the lower town with the residences at the Peak, one of the most beautiful of which is occupied by our Consul-General and his amiable wife.

All the roads are cut into the living rock or made of very hard cement, and the network of streets and roads at the top of the mountain is lined by cemented gutters. Everywhere, too, you will see asphalt tennis grounds, etc., which by their position, and lying in terraces one above the other, strongly resemble batteries placed for action.

Hongkong is very strongly guarded. The small island, which, in my estimation, is of about the same size as Capri, has a garrison of six battalions of infantry and strong detachments of artillery and engineers, in addition to the powerful men-of-war, and one sees that England too finds it advisable to employ strong military forces out here in the midst of these millions of pigtailed yellow Chinese. The followers of Buddha believe in *power* only, and it is, therefore, the policy of the British to show theirs everywhere. The drill ground is right in the heart of the town, adjoining the largest and most beautiful buildings, and on it the British Major drills his red-coated soldiers, and hundreds of almond eyed pigtailed watch the movements with an appreciation which would hardly be felt by a German military expert. Down below long rows of heavy unmounted guns lie about unprotected in the courtyard of the arsenal, and are exposed there to general view, and the salutes of the men-of-war remind one daily that Great Britain not only knows how to carry on trade, but also how to act promptly should the slightest harm befall her sons.

England not only has a most important commercial centre in Hongkong, but she has also made a strategic base of it, and the heights of the Victoria Peak can without doubt be transformed into a second Gibraltar at a short notice, and to judge by the strong garrison in this small island (fancy little Capri, having a brigade of infantry, foot artillery, engineers and furthermore 1,500 marines) leads one to suppose that England wishes to be prepared for any surprise in the Far East. Thus the streets abound with red coats, and it makes a strange

impression upon anybody to see at the various bars our Blue-Jackets drinking together in the greatest of harmony and good fellowship with the British soldiers. In the drinking question England and Germany have till now always agreed.

The British flag was hoisted in 1841 near a few miserable huts belonging to some Chinese fishermen who were then the only inhabitants of the island, and to-day Hongkong is a splendid town of 250,000 inhabitants; it forms the depot for the whole Far Eastern trade, and enormous jetties, docks, and engineering shops, granite quays, miles in length, have been built.

Trade follows the flag, and not *vice versa*. No European had ever lived in the island until Midshipman Dowell, now an Admiral in the British fleet, had hoisted the Union Jack in January, 1841, and by doing so announced to the world the British supremacy and prestige in the Far East.

To-day Germany is in a similar position. All competent judges here agree in the opinion that the Bay of Kiaochau is a valuable acquisition in regard to its position on the sea coast, as well as to the facilities which it will afford for harbour accommodation and communication with the hinterland. In the completion of the trans-Siberian railway the importance of our new possession may rise beyond all expectations, and it now lies with us to found a northern Hongkong. May success be with us, and may our German capitalists have sufficient energy, may they be far sighted and courageously determined enough to do what the British have done, and what I now see before me in Hongkong. Here, too, disappointments were met with at the beginning, and the golden harvest was not reaped during the very first years.

History is the best teacher in everything, it is the most powerful source of our knowledge in politics and warfare, and let it be thus in matters colonial.

From a handbook of British Colonial history, all those who want to reap the fruit when the seed is hardly sown could learn much, and a stroll through the cemeteries of Hongkong, where dozens of memorial stones have been set by their comrades and superiors to the British Officer, the soldier and sailor, would further teach them that out here amongst the millions of foreign races no greatness can be attained through gold alone, but that human life too must be staked. Losses of this kind are quite as unavoidable as those occurring daily in the course of trade, and above all of navigation; yet nobody would ever pretend that both trade and navigation should be abandoned because of the annual loss of life and property.

We, too, undoubtedly possess the perseverance, the courage, the energy the go-aheadness and the wandering instinct which from the time of the Vikings has rendered the German races so powerful: the qualities so characteristic of our British cousins are also given to us. The hundreds and thousands of Germans that live in any and every part of the globe prove it. But to-day these qualities are no longer sufficient; every resource, every faculty of the nation must be united, must be brought into play and must be strained to its utmost, and only then shall we be able to occupy abroad the position which we deserve.

It is time, indeed, to come forward and assert ourselves as a nation, and to alter our obsolete landsman's ideas and to follow in the footsteps of other European nations who have founded extensive colonies, and may we thus attain greatness amongst them.

The British, the French, the Russians are no better than we are, and yet look what they are abroad compared with us in national power and unity.

May the next half century see Germany rise to the same important position in the world as to-day she occupies on the continent of Europe.

At the German Consulate, Tientsin, a few days ago Mr. Max Singewald was sentenced in accordance with German law to nine months' imprisonment for unjustifiable debt. Some little sympathy, the *Peking and Tientsin Times* says, is felt for Mr. Singewald in consequence of very trying circumstances through which he passed last year. The unfortunate man will be removed to Germany immediately.

THE CHINESE LAND LAWS AND THE OWNERSHIP OF ACCRETIONS.

We give below two articles from Shanghai newspapers upon a case recently heard in the British Court there bearing upon the important question of the right of ownership to riparian accretions. The first article is from the *N. C. Daily News* and the second from the *Shanghai Daily Press*. Mr. Kingsmill, one of the parties to the case, is the editor of the last named paper.

[*N. C. Daily News.*]

The case of Sung Hoong-hai and others v. T. W. Kingsmill, tried before Sir Nicholas Hannen on Wednesday last, was a very much more important one than would appear from a casual perusal of the report of it. The nominal defendant, Mr. T. W. Kingsmill, was only the representative of the interesting institution known as the Shengko Office, and it was that which was really defeated on Wednesday. We trust it always will be defeated, and that every Consulate in Shanghai will do its utmost to crush it, and to discourage any of its nationals from surveying for it as Mr. Kingsmill has done.

The Chinese law as to accretions to properties on the banks of waterways, as settled by the Emperor Kang Hsi, the Chinese Justinian, is almost exactly the same as the rules of Roman Law on the subject, and the one might have been copied from the other. As the Chinese proverb puts it, "the calf belongs to the cow;" that is, the accretion belongs to the owner of the property, and he can at any time obtain a title to it, by paying the moderate customary price, having it measured, and paying land tax on it. In and around Shanghai there are numberless properties to which land has accreted from the river and creeks; these accretions have never been measured and no tax has been paid on them. It occurred to some native genius that there was money to be made by starting a Shengko Office for the purpose of tracing these accretions and compelling the adjacent owner to add them to his title-deeds and pay land tax thereon. There is still more money to be made, said a greater genius, by tracing out these accretions, taking them, and selling them to whoever will buy at the prices now ruling. The Viceroy at Nanking was persuaded to authorise the establishment of a Shengko Office. It did not matter that the office itself could have no legal standing without direct Imperial sanction, as the Provincial authorities have nothing to do with the land in China, which is entirely a matter of Imperial interest, the land tax being the foundation of the Emperor's revenue, and the Emperor's representatives in matters affecting the land, his Shengko officials in fact, being the local *hsiens*, or magistrates, this being the system all over China. We believe that the Shanghai *hsien* did kick against the establishment of the Shengko Office, as being an interference with his duties, but he thought it wiser to give in. This Shengko Office, then, has been founded and has acted in contravention of the laws of the Empire, and through the greed of the native officials and the desire for compromise on the part of the foreign officials, has been allowed to become a vehicle for oppression, extortion, and fraud.

The Office got to work; in some cases it persuaded the riparian owner to buy his accretion, but in many cases the riparian owner, for the Chinese landowner has a practical knowledge of the land laws, threw the Shengko underlings and their boundary stones into the nearest creek. When they did that, they as a rule heard no more about it. But such results were discouraging to the Shengko Office, so they determined to hire a foreigner, whose name, with allusions to his Consul, etc., could be used to overawe the native landowner. With foreign assistance, the Office got so bold that instead of limiting their claims to accretions on the banks of waterways, they actually picked out pieces of land away from any creek, and sent their representative and their underlings to put down stones bearing foreign initials and claim the land as theirs. This was they what tried with Sung Hoong-hai and others. It will be noticed in Mr. Kingsmill's pleadings that (answer, §4) he was merely surveying the land and that his survey was not made with the object of claiming

possession of any land; that (answer, §7) on learning that the plaintiffs declined to yield up peaceable possession of the land referred to (he) gave instructions that he was not desirous of proceeding further. He is willing with or without an injunction to withdraw all claims of any sort to the property in question and has applied to H.B.M.'s Consulate for a return of the documents of sale lodged by him endorsed to that effect."

This is a splendid illustration of the way in which this illegal black-mailing Shengko Office is worked. A piece of land belonging to somebody else is sold by the Shengko Office to a foreigner—Mr. Kingsmill says in his pleadings that he paid Tls. 20,000 for a number of these claims, and he seems to have got some of them allowed at the British Consulate. Mr. Kingsmill goes to "survey" the land, taking a parcel of boundary stones with him. The owners have the spirit to protest, and Mr. Kingsmill immediately withdraws and consents to a perpetual injunction, while his legal adviser promises that the Shanghai magistrate will not take any proceedings civil or criminal against the real owners of the ground for any acts alleged to have been committed or arising out of this action. We have been told that in other cases, Mr. Kingsmill has succeeded in getting the real owners of ground who objected to the Shengko Office robbing them, arrested and detained in the City without any warrant from his Consulate or without the knowledge of the police, but we cannot believe that any foreigner would go as far as that. We hope that Mr. Kingsmill will now sever his connection with the Shengko Office, after the decision giving on Wednesday; and we hope that all the Consulates will see to it that the Shengko Office, illegal and oppressive as it is, gets no assistance in its nefarious work from them by putting forward any of their nationals.

[*Shanghai Daily Press.*]

The aphorism that "fools rush in where angels fear to tread" was seldom better exemplified than in an article which appeared in yesterday's *North China Daily News*. It is not the function of this paper to subserve merely private ends, and were it not that there were public interests concerned, the private attack on Mr. Kingsmill would have been passed by unnoticed. As a fact Sir Nicholas Hannen stated in his remarks that the plaintiffs in the action referred to were going into a very big thing, and were seeking to set in motion a tremendous steam hammer to crush a butterfly. As Mr. Kingsmill had from the beginning refused to be associated with any forcible measures, and had on the first notice of the occupiers of their unwillingness to place him in possession, quietly retired, there was nothing illogical in his having by consent agreed to an injunction, and this, as was pointed out by the judge, was the position at the commencement of the action. As to the allegation that the Shengko Office is "illegal" and "black-mailing" that is a matter in which that office alone is concerned; with the particular case in point it had practically nothing to do. In China as in England land below high water mark or which has accreted from the sea or navigable rivers belongs to the Crown, and it may be added that in England the Crown is jealously tenacious of its prerogative. In the district of Shanghai in the delta of a river like the Yangtze accretions are numerous, and have always been treated as public, and with the understanding that in preference the owner whose land they bound shall have the first claim, unless the land be required for public uses. Although the land department in China is administered theoretically in a perfect manner it need not be said that irregularities occasionally occur. As a rule the land books are kept up to date and the holdings are orderly entered. Some three to four years ago cases of irregularities having come to the notice of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung he directed a survey of accreted lands, and issued a proclamation to those concerned that on application they could procure titles to accretions abutting on their holdings. The lands were measured and no trouble seems to have been excited, the majority gladly accepting the offer and procuring titles for the accreted land. In some cases the holders of adjacent lands did not desire the accretions

and made no application, and in a few cases they declined on the score that the rate asked was too high. In a still fewer number of cases the owners were contumacious, and after due investigation the land was ordered to be confiscated and sold. In no case were any steps taken without a full and open investigation. So far there has been not the slightest reason for the use of the extraordinary language to which our contemporary has committed himself. The ground in question had, it is true, been occupied for years by the Shen family, but this it may be said was according to the Chinese law an aggravation of their offence. They had, it was alleged, never during that period paid land tax and the penalty for this is not only corporal punishment but a fine equal to the entire of the taxes unpaid and the confiscation of the land. This is no Shengko Office statement but is to be found in Ta Tsing Luli, a copy of which is to be found in every yamen. More than this, the plaintiffs produced the last remains of a *fangtan*, or certificate of ownership, and the possession of this, could its legal acquisition be proved, would have placed them in full ownership. Unfortunately the *fangtan* when compared with the register proved to have been for an adjoining piece of land, many years ago registered in H.B.M. Consulate, and the Magistrate was prepared and willing to produce the register in court if asked. Now it may seem an anomalous thing that a *fangtan* should remain in the hands of an occupier while the property is registered as owned by a foreigner in his Consulate, and such would be the case as business is now conducted. But the title deeds for the two lots of land, one lying immediately to one side of and the other in front of the lot claimed, were registered in the early sixties, and *fangtans* were never deposited in the Consulate till the seventies. The reason was that the original owners were content to believe that the foreigner was only a bird of passage, and that when he had passed out of the land his *fangtan* would entitle them to reclaim the land of their ancestors. Such was the complicated net-work which the plaintiffs in the case of Sung Hoonghai and others requested the Judge of H.B.M. Supreme Court to decide in their favour. It was under these circumstances that the Judge stated that his decision could in no way affect the right or wrong of the case, and that should he be forced to give a judgment he would be very careful to so word it as to affect no one outside.

This, we may point out, affords but very slender argument for the wild statements which have been carefully spread abroad. It is not too much to say that had it not been from investigation and interference from without, the plaintiffs would never have been indiscreet enough to place themselves in the position of being practically nonsuited.

NEWCHWANG.

On the 1st of April in an article in these columns on Russian designs we pointed out that the construction of the Russian railway from Petuna via Kirin to Talienwan meant the ruin of the treaty port of Newchwang, unless the latter port was promptly connected with the North China system of railways. We have already mentioned the route that the Russian railway is to take, but we may repeat that it is to pass from Talien Bay through Southern Kinchou, Hsinyen, Fuchou, Kuichou, Haicheng, Liaoyang, Monkden, and so to Kirin. The district through which it passes produces about seventy per cent. of the exports from Newchwang, so that this amount of trade will probably be lost to Newchwang when the railway is made and Talienwan is opened.

The Russian line, it will be observed is not to go through Newchwang, but to pass it at some distance to the eastward. Between Kai-chou which is some 24 miles southward of Newchwang, and Haicheng which is some 40 miles to the north-eastward, there is a village called Kanwangchai which is under 20 miles eastward of Newchwang, and through which the Russian line passes. From this village a branch line is to be laid to Newchwang, and meanwhile until Talienwan is ready to be opened, which, as we mentioned a few days ago, is not likely to be for three years, the material and plant for the Russian railway is to be landed

at Newchwang. This branch line, therefore, is apparently to be the first section undertaken, and when it is in running order, the construction of the main line will be undertaken both north and south from Kanwangchai.

The Chinese, as we have already said, are ready and anxious to extend their northern railway system to Newchwang and Monkden. This would tap the valley of the Liao river and the districts from which about thirty per cent of the present exports come, saving to Newchwang a not unimportant fragment of its trade. It would also put Newchwang in direct communication with valuable coal measures, from which both steam coal and coal suitable for Shanghai's manufactories can be procured. It is estimated by a capable authority that even with the loss of the districts through which the Russian railway will run, the construction of the proposed Chinese railway will maintain the trade of Newchwang at its present level and probably largely increase it. It is not improbable too that to face the competition of the proposed Chinese line, the Russians will make the branch which they are making to Newchwang for construction purposes a permanent one, and this would without doubt divert to Newchwang a considerable proportion of the traffic that would otherwise go to Talienwan.

Newchwang has advantages which are not realised by those who regard it as a small out-of-the-way port, frozen up in the winter, and with no attractiveness at any time. It is so little regarded by the powers that be, that, important as it is that the Chinese should have no reason to think that England has abandoned Manchuria altogether to Russia, the white ensign has not been seen there this year, although a large British fleet has been lying for months within a day's voyage. Newchwang has a fine river extending for a long distance into the interior, with a bar with 18 feet of water on it. Its trade is already well established, and the port is well provided with lighters, warehousing accommodation, mills, etc., etc. It is certain that so long as it remains under the Chinese flag its trade will be open on equal terms to all nationalities, without preference or distinction; and it is the nearest seaport to the immense districts to which the imports into Manchuria go, and from which the exports come. The great drawback to it is that it is ice-bound every winter for some four months. But it must be remembered that the demand for its staple produce, beans, in the Japanese and southern markets, where its principal customers are, is quiescent during the winter months.

If the Chinese system of railways is extended to Newchwang, and if the Chinese and Russians are disposed to encourage its trade, Newchwang should make vast strides when the two railways are completed. The danger to the port is that in their anxiety to encourage their new port at Talienwan, the Russians may successfully oppose the extension of the Chinese railway system to Newchwang, and remove the line they are making for construction purposes to Kanwangchai, thus leaving the port isolated. Or they may hereafter claim Newchwang as being within their "sphere of influence" in Manchuria, and then establish a system of differential duties for the whole province.

The existing foreign interests most nearly concerned in the present and future of Newchwang are the Americans, British, and Japanese. There is a British concession at Newchwang; the foreign-owned land outside the concession is nearly all in British hands. The foreign firms established at the port are mostly American, British, and Japanese. About fifty per cent. of the imports are American, the remainder being mostly British and Japanese; while of the ships that had come to the port this year up to the middle of June, 60 were British, 56 Japanese, 17 Chinese, and 36 of other nationalities. Of these 169 vessels, 98 cleared for Japan, 64 for Chinese ports, and 7 remained in port. In conclusion, it is evident that the future prosperity of Newchwang as a treaty port depends on the extension to it of the Chinese railway system; that the Powers mainly interested in this prosperity are Great Britain, the United States, and Japan; and it is therefore for the Ministers of these Powers at Peking to do everything they can to strengthen the hands of the Chinese railway authorities, who are anxious to extend their

system to Newchwang and Monkden. In this connection we note with pleasure in a Japan paper a Peking telegram saying that China has succeeded in borrowing from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank £2,000,000 sterling for the construction of the railway between Shanhaikuan and Newchwang.—N. C. Daily News.

FREEMASONRY AT NEWCHWANG.

An event of considerable importance in the history of Newchwang took place on Saturday, 18th June. This was the consecration of the new Masonic Lodge, "The Northern Star of China," No. 2,673, English Constitution. It had been expected that the official opening of the Lodge named would have been held in the autumn of last year, but owing to the non-arrival of the warrant from England before the closing of the port for the winter, this had to be postponed until later. On Saturday last, however, the impressive ceremony was performed in a most effective and solemn manner by Rt. Wor. Bro. Lawis Moore, the District Grand Master for Northern China, assisted by Wor. Bro. W. H. Anderson, D.D.G.M., and the warrant handed over to the members of the Lodge. The meeting was attended by a considerable number of both resident and non-resident Masons. After the consecration, the Rt. Wor. Bro. Moore installed Wor. Bro. J. N. Segerdal as first W.M., and invested the following officers:—Bro. A. Schmid, S.W.; Bro. G. Fawcett, J.W.; Bro. F. C. McCallum, Treasurer; Bro. W. J. Lister, Secretary; Bro. G. H. Pennefather, S.D.; Bro. F. Hopkins, J.D.; Bro. J. Clark, I.G.; Bro. J. Armour, D.C.; Bro. W. Sloss, Steward.

At the close of the ceremonies the Brethren adjourned to the Assembly Rooms where a substantial repast had been prepared. The usual Masonic toasts having been duly honoured, several of the most prominent residents, who are not Freemasons, but who had been invited, arrived, and, although they only "came in at the tail end of the banquet," joined heartily in contributing to the passing of a very pleasant musical evening. The stage in the ball room was utilised for the convenience of the singers, and the entertainment was kept up until a late hour.

The Freemasons of Newchwang are to be congratulated on the spirit which has incited them to conquer many difficulties, to establish a lodge of their own (which now numbers nearly forty members) and to obtain and furnish such a comfortable room for the meeting.

THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

A correspondent writes to the N. C. Daily News, from Taipeh, under date of 9th June, as follows:—

Though, taking the island as a whole, it cannot be said that the effects of good government have generally shown themselves, still, notwithstanding all the terrible drawbacks to peaceful existence and the undoubted lawlessness which does exist, the prosperity of the people and the trade generally have by no means retrograded. Whatever faults the impartial critic of the past four years' régime may justly find in the effects of Japanese rule, there cannot be the slightest doubt as to goodwill and desire on the part of rulers to bring about better results than unhappily have been attained.

The Chinese people accustomed to that splendid system of popular government and control to which the cohesion of China (in spite of the iniquities of her nominal rulers) is undoubtedly due, suddenly finding themselves prevented from carrying this on, and the new system the Japanese sought to impose having thoroughly failed to obtain a footing, they have been reduced to a condition of confusion, if not actually chaos, which has more or less resulted in "every man being his own master," and so a state of general lawlessness, approaching anarchy, is more or less reigning throughout the whole island.

The offenders, however, can, in no sense, be classed as "rebels," if that term is meant to imply resistance to any special government.

The disorderliness simply arises from the fact that the Japanese have made the mistake of assuming that what would do in Japan would,

even in its most minute detail be applicable to Formosa. With that readiness to retrace their steps, as soon as they discover their mistake, which is characteristic of the nation, the authorities have resolved on falling back, to a great extent, on that old system of popular rule which so exactly suits the Celestial nature, and which is based on the immediate government of the people by the people themselves through their headmen.

Governor-General Kodama, ably assisted by his expert henchman Dr. Goto, seems to have taken the matter up with great earnestness and vigour, and those who know inform me that in a very short time matters are likely to assume a much more favourable aspect than has obtained in the past. This, however, necessitates some little delay, as much has to be undone, and new arrangements substituted, before the regular machinery can get into working order.

In the meantime, the Japanese have abstained, as far as possible, from active interference with the people, even under great provocation, rightly believing that when everything is arranged means will be found for putting a stop to that which at present is undoubtedly most unsatisfactory, not only to themselves but to the people generally. This has led some of the evil-doers to misconstrue the forbearance we have described, and they have gone so far as to form bands most audaciously attacking or threatening to attack towns and even garrisons. Thus it was, that the other day a large collection of these brigands, or "*Tochin*" as they are locally styled, congregated in the hills close to the district city of Fungshan (Hozan) with the armed intention of marching on the latter place and sacking it. Things became so threatening that it was thought expedient to call in the aid of the military who anticipated matters by themselves assailing the robber stronghold. Severe fighting took place in these hills, which, I may mention, are riddled with caves communicating with each other and into which the robbers retreated. After severe loss, and not without considerable difficulty, the latter were driven out and dispersed.

The fugitives re-formed in a village further to the South, called Lunating, which has long been notorious as the rendezvous and headquarters of the leading brigand chiefs in the South. It is no exaggeration to say, and this we state on the authority of the Chinese themselves, that every resident of the village is directly or indirectly concerned in these evil practices.

The soldiers following up the flying robbers found the latter prepared for a stand at this place. The summons to surrender was met by a volley which knocked over one or two of the Japanese.

Thereupon the engagement became general, the robbers making a house-to-house resistance, many of them finally escaping.

Of course, in an action of this sort, as with rioting, places and persons who are perfectly innocent often have to suffer in the general mêlée.

With the inhabitants of Lunating it is probable that this liability, from their very characteristics and associations, was reduced to a minimum—still it may be that some were killed or injured who had it been possible to protect would no doubt have been carefully guarded.

I have taken the trouble to describe this last engagement in somewhat minute detail, as a very exaggerated account of the same appeared in a late issue of a Hongkong paper. It may add weight to what I now say when it is stated that the information on which I base my report has been obtained, in chief part, from the Chinese themselves, some of whom were actually spectators of the whole affair, and I have good reason for saying that the strictest orders have been given to both military and police to abstain entirely from setting fire to houses, firing on those who are retreating, or not resisting, and, above all, to refrain to the very last moment from opening fire.

The Chinese, I am informed, say that the houses at Lunating were fired by the robbers themselves, prior to retreating from the same, and no amount of investigation has been able to afford confirmation of the highly sensational events which second-hand native informants (with characteristic disregard of either truth or pro-

portion) would appear to have led the Hongkong correspondent to believe actually took place.

Although no one can say that the Japanese have at all attained perfection, yet it can serve no good purpose to retail the hysterical and mendacious accusations which Chinese, who themselves have not been near the place, are always only too ready to invent.

To turn to more pleasant, because more hopeful, matters, I think it may be taken as pretty certain that ere very long marked evidences of commercial and local progress in the way of harbour improvements and allied enterprises will be announced. Already we see signs of a very liberal tendency on the part of the officials to do that for Formosa, her people, and her trade, which is all that is lacking to enable this island with its bountiful capacities to progress "by leaps and bounds." The country once pacified, as no doubt it will immediately be, as soon as the new system of popular government is instituted, there will be nothing to prevent the freest development of all resources, whether undertaken or aided by the efforts of the natives, the Japanese, or even foreigners.

UNITED STATES COMMERCIAL COMMISSION TO CHINA.

Yokohama, 16th June.

The Hon. Sheridan P. Read, recently United States Consul at Tientsin, China, is a passenger on board the *Doric*. Mr. Read is Chairman of a United States Commercial Commission to China, which Commission, while having the endorsement of the U.S. Government at Washington, is under the direction of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Mr. Read is well known both in Japan and in China, having been formerly connected with Messrs. Russell & Co., as one of the resident managers of Messrs. Russell & Co.'s Canton branch. As U.S. Consul at Tientsin, China, Mr. Reid's record is still fresh in the memory of those who watched the course of the recent war between China and Japan. While Consul he acted as protector of Japanese interests in Northern China during the war, and rendered such good services that the Japanese Government offered him a decoration through the U.S. Minister at Tokyo.

The object of the Commission, of which Mr. Read is at the head, is carefully set forth in a prospectus. It desires to lay before the merchants and manufacturers of the United States a comprehensive study of the internal resources of China, illustrated by samples of raw materials and products, and of existing trade conditions and methods of doing business. Mr. Read is accompanied by his wife and children, who will reside in Tientsin, while Mr. Read is engaged in the work of the Commission. Mr. Read is accompanied by Mr. Cassius A. Green, the Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Information of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum. Mr. Green with his wife will remain for several weeks in Japan before proceeding to China to rejoin Ex U.S. Consul Read. The object of Mr. Green's stay in Japan is in connection with the Philadelphia Exposition to be held from May to October of next year, and especially in connection with the second International Commercial Congress to be held in June, 1899, in conjunction with this exposition. At this Congress there will be represented not only the leading Chambers of Commerce of Latin America, but also those of South Africa, India, Australia, China, and, it is to be hoped, of Japan. Mr. Green will visit the principal Chambers of Commerce of Japan, and lay before their members all the necessary data connected with this exposition, and urge the sending of representatives to the Commercial Congress. The convocation of this Congress in conjunction with an exposition of such manufactures as are best suited for export trade, will give to foreign merchants an unusual opportunity to study and examine what they can best buy in the United States.

The Chambers of Commerce of Japan will no doubt extend to Messrs. Read and Green a warm welcome and will assuredly not lose the opportunity of being represented at this Congress.—*Japan Mail*.

HANDEL IN CHINA.

The Tungchow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—Strolling outside the city walls the other evening, we came upon a Chinese lad seated on a bank and playing on some primitive wind instrument. It proved to be a penny tin whistle, brought into the country probably by some outlander, to compete with other and less noble instruments dear to the Chinese heart. This, however, was not the surprise. For on drawing nearer, the thin notes shaped themselves into a succession of puzzlingly familiar sounds to be presently recognised as the thread of the air in the Hallelujah Chorus from the Messiah. It had much the same staggering effect as would be produced by coming upon a London coster chanting a Sanskrit ode to Buddha. Yet, allowing for the limitations of the instrument, the air was being produced faithfully and in good time, so that even in Timbuctoo it would have been recognised at once by any wanderer from the great West.

The explanation was presently forthcoming. It seems the lad was a student in the North China College, and was one of a chorus of fifty who for months past had been practising the Hallelujah Chorus for rendering at the approaching graduation exercise. Escaped from his associates, he was regaling himself in the summer evening by piping to himself on a tin whistle in the dusk.

Later on we had the singular experience of listening to the chorus, sung, probably for the first time, by a trained Chinese choir. The voices were strong and good, the parts admirably maintained, and the time and entrances were nearly perfect. The feeling and *verve* with which the performers entered into the singing were unmistakable. A number of auditors were present who were familiar with the great oratorio as rendered in the capitals of the western world, on both sides of the Atlantic. But there was not one who was not thrilled through and through with the old familiar fervour of delight as the splendid passionate theme moved on to its culmination. It was, to very foreigner who listened, a revelation of æsthetic possibilities on the part of the Chinese, wholly unsuspected. If they could enter with such appreciation and manifest enthusiasm upon a triumph of musical art peculiarly western, what other possibilities of æsthetic development might no lie behind. There are many sceptical Occidentals to whom it will be less incredible that the Chinese should be capable of an ethical and spiritual refinement like our own, when they realise that an æsthetic cultivation like ours may be so readily developed. It should be particularly noted that the whole work of learning and mastering this chorus has been done by the young men themselves, under teachers chosen from among their own number. This achievement is rendered possible by the use of the Tonic Sol Fa system.

THE SHANGHAI COTTON MILLS AND THE LABOUR QUESTION.

The *China Gazette* has recently drawn attention to the effects of the increase in the rates of wages on local industries. In the second article on the subject our contemporary says:—

It is gratifying that our remarks last night upon the labour question in Shanghai have evoked several responses, bearing out our statement of the general proposition, and pointing to a desire on the part of foreign employers of labour to take concerted action with the object of dealing effectively with the octopus which threatens to destroy all local industry. One of the cotton mills, and strangely enough a native owned mill, has already been compelled to suspend work on account of the extortionate demands of its native workpeople. It is evidently only a question of a short time when other local factories will be similarly placed, if nothing is done to meet the extortionate conspiracies of their hands. In this connection, however, we are informed the foreign managers and owners of the various mills are endeavouring to form an employers' protective union, and we trust those interested in other industries will promptly follow suit. With a little more mutual understanding and less feeling of fierce rivalry, such a consummation ought not to prove a matter

of any great difficulty. The formation of a small committee of those interested would doubtless largely facilitate matters and dispose of many little difficulties that at present form a stumbling block to the realization of the idea of foreigners protecting themselves against the ever growing native rapacity. The case of the cotton mills is doubtless one of the most pressing for counter combination, the capital involved being so large, but at present, we are driven to confess that the outlook for this industry is nothing like as roseate as when, after the Shimomoseki Treaty, the first foreign prospectuses were published. This unhappy alteration in their prospects is due to two causes, first the insatiable rapacity of the natives and their unwillingness to be content with reasonable profits, which disposition is displayed in the constant demand for higher wages, and the increasing exactions of the middlemen or brokers who control the supplies of raw cotton. From various enquiries in the country we have satisfied ourselves that the enhanced cost of raw cotton has brought little or no increase in the profits of the grower, but has been pocketed by the rapacious class of middlemen who, as in everything else in China, at once fastened themselves like barnacles upon the new industry. One of the results of this is that many if not most of the cotton mills to-day are spinning imported American cotton for the higher counts because it is cheaper, even with dear American labour, heavy freights and duty, than the local grown article, with its so called cheap Chinese labour and small cost of transportation.

But this phase of the difficulty will evidently work its own cure, as soon as the native harpies clearly realize that their game is cutting their own throats though our experience of the manner in which the China tea trade has been strangled by much the same tactics, may raise a doubt whether the end in China will turn out as it would in other countries, where the love to squeeze every orange dry is not so developed to the destruction of all other and more permanent interests. The higher price of coal, as compared with 1895 is no doubt also telling upon the mill industries, but this is only a temporary question, which will sooner or later disappear. The greatest difficulty is the constant demand for higher pay by the work people and, as it looks now, we are likely to hear less and less of the "cheap" labour of China's millions as factors in the competition of the industrial world. Taken at the outset and regarding Chinese labour in its original conditions, before it has been vitiated by the knowledge of how easily the artless "foreign devils" may be squeezed, it is certainly as cheap as any in the world. Cheap doubtless, but terribly careless, scamping and ineffective; but transplant it to a place like Shanghai and see how soon the quality of cheapness disappears. We are informed by one acquainted with the work that in the local mills the average cost per frame is \$1 a day for labour, while in England a woman for 18s. (or \$9 a week) will attend to four frames and turn out infinitely more even and honest work. Thus the cost per frame in Shanghai works out to \$7 a week, while in England it amounts to \$2.25. As compared with India, another land of the vaunted cheap Asiatic labour, a native will there attend to two frames for the same wages as is paid for one in Shanghai. This entirely leaves out the question of waste, which is terribly heavy in most mills in Shanghai, where the same trouble is being found in this respect as was encountered in the early days of the cotton spinning in Bombay. Is it then any wonder that we hear that the Wa Sing Chong mill on the Yangtsepoo Road is losing Tls. 600 a day, or that another Chinese owned mill in the same vicinity is making a loss of Tls. 3 on every bale of cotton? But only in too many instances has the real working of the local mills passed from the hands of the nominal foreign managers into those of the No. 1 Chinaman who controls all the labour, and until this is remedied we fear the glowing hopes with which the mills started will never be realized.

According to the *Shanghai Daily Press* "Billy" Waters, ex man-of-warman, torpedo instructor, saloon keeper, pugilist, generalissimo and Prime Minister to the short-lived Formosan Republic, is on his way to join the Insurgents under Aguinaldo in the Philippines.

JAPANESE MANUFACTURES IN CHINA.

The Japanese Consul at Tientsin recently reported to the Government that the Chinese have begun to regard Japanese manufactures with serious distrust. Merchandise received from Japan, they allege, does not correspond with sample, and packing is, in almost all cases, miserably unsubstantial. The Consul expresses the deepest regret that Japanese merchants are disposed to break faith without the slightest regard to honour. The sale of soap is a typical example. The fragrance and delicacy of Japanese soap attracted the notice of the Chinese, and demand for the article increased considerably. But the original fragrance, which constituted the attraction, has now entirely disappeared and the market is, consequently, closed. The failure to observe punctuality in the delivery of goods is alleged to be another deplorable defect of Japanese manufacturers. Large orders from Chinese customers are never executed at the appointed time and to the contracted amount, owing simply to want of due attention. The utmost indifference is shown to small orders. Porcelain ordered in September last year has not yet been transmitted. The untrustworthiness of the Japanese, the Consul adds, is almost proverbial in many parts of China.—*Japan Mail*.

POETS OF THE PAST ON THE PROBLEMS OF THE PRESENT.

"The most practical of all sciences is the science of life, and the most useful of all arts the art of adaptation." This must be our excuse for placing before our readers some adapted opinions of the past on the problems which the present is trying hard to work out. That there is much plagiarism and not a little parody inextricably mixed up in such an attempt is our misfortune, not our fault.

It is quite within the bounds of possibility, especially in these days of Psychical Societies and Mahatmas, that the spirit of Cooper in his Alexander Selkirk-Fram of mind may lately have occupied a regal throne in the mind of his Imperial Majesty the Czar of all the Russians, and that the following delirance may have been the result:—

I am monarch of all I survey,
My right there is none to dispute;
From Port Arthur away out to sea,
I am lord both of man and of brute.

O Salisbury, where are the charms
The English have seen in thy face?
Thanks to thee, and without war's alarms,
I reign in this snug little place.

I am out of thy naval men's reach,
I can finish my journey alone;
It's amusing to hear thy bold speech
So directly opposed to my own.

There are leases in many a place,
And leases—encouraging thought—
May save some of Britain's lost fate,
And reconcile her to her lot.

It is still a moot point whether or no there was an understanding between the Germans who opened the ball at Kiaochow and the Czar, who was thus enabled to take up his present point of vantage. But one thing is certain, the position is the direct outcome of the seizure of Kiaochow Bay.

The Teuton came down like a wolf on the fold,
All burnished in steel, and all glittering with gold,

And the fame of his fleet spread like foam on the sea,

Where was never so mighty a sailor as he!
Like the trees of the forest when summer is green

Their masts with their banners at daylight were seen;

Like to extinct volcanoes all smokeless and cold,
Their funnels at sunset stood strange to behold.
For there lay the *Deutschland* with a roll to each side,

And there lay her consort in cruiserly pride,
Her songs were all silent, her flag drooped alone,
Her rails were unlifted, her trumpets unblown.
King Coal had refused for the nonce to assist
In the hurry and haste of the mighty mailed fist;

Yet Destiny deigned to make more than amends;

For the slow-coming foe was quick to make friends.

What the Dowager Empress thinks of the recent Russian grab is seen by the following:—

O call Port Arthur back to me,
I had but that alone;
My new ships come from o'er the sea,
Where is Port Arthur gone?
The Japanese came rushing swift
Across my vessels' track;
I care not now to trace their flight,
O call Port Arthur back!
He cannot bear thy voice fair dame,
He may not come to thee.
The bear hath clasped him to his breast;
In hug of ecstasy.
And has he left his fatherland,
And must I call in vain?
And through the long, long future years
Will he not come again?
He may not. Yet there's comfort still
To shed one golden ray,
A kind, dear friend will watch him well
From rocky Weihaiwei.

Possibly no body of men are more fitted to represent public opinion in the Far East than the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, and we suggest that the following, with every apology to the late Rev. Charles Wolfe's memory, be known as

THE MERCHANT'S LAMENT.

Not a drum was heard nor a funeral note,
As our thoughts to Cathay's Court we hurried,
Not a soldier discharged a farewell shot
O'er the grave where our commerce we buried
We buried it darkly at Talienwan,
The turf our Conservatives turning,
By Simple Salisbury's trust, poor man,
And our anger fiercely burning.

Few and short the remarks we made,
And unparliamentary the sally,
As we steadfastly watched the Manchurian raid,
And feared for the fate of the valley.

No useless treaties confine the Russ,
(That's our sole part in the story.)
For he lies like a warrior without any fuss,
And our interest—just go to glory.

Recent blue books have given us some of the internal history of the past few months. Ministers may try to put a pleasant face upon the matter, and they may possibly have as many cards up their sleeve as the distinguished prestidigitateur at present with us. But for all that the people of England have of late been asking, in the words of Campbell, where the navy has been all this time, and the naval men have re-echoed—"Where indeed!"

Ye mariners of England
Who roam the Eastern seas,
Whose flag has waved full many a day
In many an ocean breeze,
Your glorious pennants pack again
You're not to face the foe;
Though you sweep through the deep
While stormy tempests blow;
While anger rages loud and long,
And wordy tempests blow,
Britannia's many bulwarks,
And towers along the steep;
She marches still over mountain waves,
Her home's still on the deep.
Then why, O ocean warriors,
O why did she not go
With the fame of your name,
Where war's fierce tempests blow.
Where the battle rages loud and long,
And war's fierce tempests blow.

The general public is not one whit behind in condemnation of the policy of shilly-shally which has characterised Lord Salisbury's conduct of the Far Eastern crisis. In borrowing from Young's "Night Thoughts" to illustrate this general feeling, we might remark that the ideas here expressed are not confined to the darker hours, but are dominant throughout the whole twenty-four, and might appropriately be described as the "Day and Night Thoughts" of the Britishers of the Far East:—

Be wise to-day; 'tis madness to defer;
Next day the fatal precedent will plead;
Thus on, till China is pushed out of life;
Pro-Russianation is the thief this time.
Year after year it steals till all is gone,
And to the tender mercies of a Cossack leaves
The vast concerns of all Britannia's trade.—

Of ministers' insane mistakes, this bears the palm—that they should trust a rival. Unanxious for ourselves, we only wish As duteous sons, our rulers were more wise. In London, men suspect that they are fools. Know it at Peking, and reform their plan, At Shanghai, chide their infamous delay, As pushing prudent purpose to resolve, They pause and resolve—to act the same.

—Mercury.

KIUKIANG.

We hear from Kiukiang that Mr. Grimani is busy getting ready to take over the collection of the likin. It is uncertain when he will take charge of it. The natives say the foreigners will not be able to arrange for the taking over.

A company of British merchants has been formed at Kiukiang to run a line of steamers from Kiukiang down the Poyang Lake. Their signboard has been put up at Messrs. Alex. Campbell & Co.'s, but it has not been stated when the steamers will begin to run.

There are now about 150 foreigners at Kuling. There is a steady stream of persons going up every day. The up and down steamers come in full and go away empty.

The roads to Kuling are being improved rapidly, the large boulders having been blasted, or at any rate most of them, and the uneven places filled in.—N. C. Daily News.

TALIENTWAN.

The following interesting notes are from a private letter just received in Shanghai:—

"This port (Talienwan) will not be opened to foreigners for three years. The harbour is to be dredged to the depth of 16 feet and is to cost £1,600,000 sterling. There is to be a breakwater to the harbour, and landing stages which will cost £1,400,000. On the north part of the harbour the stages will be for the use of Chinese, and the south for foreigners only.

All lands about Talienwan and Port Arthur are being bought up by Russia, value as per title-deeds, and sale is made compulsory.

"Russo-Chinese Railway.—From what I can find out the Chinese will build a line from Tientsin on to Talienwan, and also branch off to Moukden and Kirin from Newchwang. This line is, I believe, wholly in the hands of the Russians, and it is they who supply all the money."—N. C. Daily News.

TIENTSIN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 18th June.

Some months ago a report was common in northern official circles that the Empress Dowager meant to assert herself once more in politics as soon as Prince Kung's death removed the one obstacle to her intrusion. The Prince has been dead three weeks, and, sure enough, we now have the biggest shuffle of the official cards that has been seen since the war. The Imperial Tutor Weng Tung-ho is dismissed with reprobation from all his offices. Wang Wen-she, the amiable Viceroy of Chihli, is called up to the Capital to take a seat at the Tsungli Yamen, and is to be succeeded here by the Manchu Jung Lu, a shrewd but not very able bureaucrat credited with a bias towards foreign innovation.

The most significant change of all is, however, not gazetted, viz., the reascendancy of Li Hung-chang. It is universally believed up here that by the Dowager's influence and active support Li will be practically sole Minister for Foreign Affairs. The other members of the Tsungli Yamen are afraid of responsibility, and the changes now being made in its constitution certainly favour the hypothesis that Li is deliberately filling it with weaklings, so that he may have things completely his own way. If so, the outlook is indeed serious, for Li's marked Russophil tendencies portend difficulties to the British officials. There is much reason to suspect that the old Tsung-tang is actually suffering from acute Anglophobia. The Tientsin Kwo Wen Pao two days ago published an account of a fierce passage-at-arms at the Yamen between Li and Sir Claude over the cession of Miao Bay. A responsible journalist will often hesitate to publish backstairs intelligence, though

it may be most fascinating and of considerable public interest. In this case, however, as the fat is already in the fire, there is no need for reticence. Indeed there is urgent need of supplemental accounts of the altercation, as that already given accentuates only one phase of the quarrel. Li, with his usual brusque and very objectionable frankness—to call it a polite name—took upon himself before his colleagues to read Sir Claude a lecture on the latter's personal address. He told the minister that his function was to lessen difficulties and not to create them, that his manner was calculated to defeat his purposes, and that unless he changed it the Chinese would have to take the only possible measures left to protect themselves (implying, no doubt, they would demand his recall). Li probably thought this protest necessary to lessen the emphasis with which Sir Claude insisted on the Kowloon extension demands. It was accompanied by an aggressive manner and, on dit, considerable table thumping. The native paper stops here, but rumour, more or less reliable, has it that Sir Claude gave Li more than a Roland for his Oliver: he asked him how he dared thus to address the Minister of a friendly state—he, a man who had abused his power and had betrayed his country into the hands of its deadliest enemy, to talk like this to an honourable man; and then the contention waxed furious, to the actual terror of others present.

As a commentary on this let me add that it is all derived from native sources, and is probably garbled and exaggerated. There, however, is no doubt that things are now different at the Yamen vis-a-vis Great Britain. A month ago Sir Claude had no difficulty with the Board and there was a marked tendency to follow the British lead; at present there is great vacillation and the Board will not run straight or keep its own mind for two days together.

The storm of the 9th and 10th instant destroyed the Chinese cruiser *Fuching* at Port Arthur. The vessel in a fog ran in as close as soundings would allow. The gale rose very quickly, dispersing the fog. The Captain, instead of putting to sea, resolved to ride it out, seeing himself quite close in to Port Arthur; but his two chain cable parted under the strain, and he was on the reef before he could get way on the ship. The Russians promptly rendered what help they could, but either panic or incompetency prevented those on board making use of the lines thrown over the ship. The first lieutenant and three sailors were saved; the captain and one hundred and forty-five others were drowned. The vessel belonged to the Nan Yang Squadron and was only recently lent to the Pei Yang. Such are the bare outlines which have reached the Naval Secretariat in Tientsin.

At the same moment Taku Bar was witnessing a minor but even more appalling tragedy. A big junk laden with spirit caught fire in the midst of the storm: twenty eight souls were first half roasted to death and then in frenzy jumped overboard and perished to a man. So high a sea was running that help was impossible.

The Peiho improvement scheme seems at last about to be realized. The loan difficulty has been met by the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank advancing the money to the British Municipality. The latter will administer and will redeem the loan from the revenue collected by the Commissioners on landing fees. The enterprise of the British Municipal Council in the matter is greatly to be commended as an excellent way out of an impasse which threatened to wreck the labour of two years. Their appearance in the matter is completely justified by the enormous issues at stake if the river is not quickly taken in hand. The fairway has once more shallowed to six feet and the whole trade of the port is again being carried with fearful loss and expense by small lighters and native boats. Only a few tow boats can now negotiate the stream.

Viceroy Wang's removal is greatly regretted. He has not been a strong man, and I fear that corruption and scallywaggery have not lessened during his tenure of office; but on the other hand he has been extremely kind, affable, and straightforward to foreigners, with whom he has got on most admirably. Our new man, Jung Lu, has been down here more than once in recent years to investigate irregularities in administration. There is a

panic among the provincial officials as usual—they all fear the usual loss of office which attends a change of Governorship.

Peitaiho is going stronger than ever this year, and is finding favour among the diplomatists of Peking. The Russian, German, and Dutch representatives have all taken houses there and Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald have had a few days' seclusion and fresh air in the house of Mr. Bax Ironside. Everybody is delighted with the health giving properties of the place. Tientsin is rapidly being emptied of its lady and juvenile population. July and August will see some 300 foreigners at the sea side.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

An Imperial edict was issued on the 23rd June appointing Wang Wen-Shao to be a member of the Grand Council, President of the Board of Revenue, and member of the Tsungli Yamen; Sun Kū-li President of the Board of Civil Appointments, to be an Assistant Grand Secretary; Jung Lu to be Viceroy of Chihli; In Mow to be Tartar General of Kirin. Another Imperial decree of the same date directs that the subjects of the examinations for Shou Tsoi, Kū Yan, and Tsan-Sz, the first, second, and third degrees, be changed in future from Man Chang, that is, compositions on the sentences selected from the four classics, into the form of Chak Nun, that is, nearly the same as that of English composition.

Heavy rain has fallen in torrents during the last few days in the district of Yingtak on the North River. The water in the streets was knee-deep and over thirty houses were washed away. Luckily the inhabitants, being aware of the danger, all escaped before the incident, so that no life was lost.

A case of robbery has occurred at the likin station at a place named Luklan. The robbers came in junks, which were suspected by the officers of the station to be engaged in smuggling. The officers at once boarded the junks, but the robbers took the opportunity of seizing them as hostages and marched into the station. They did not retire till they had discovered all the valuables therein.

Some days ago it was reported that a rebellion had broken out at Ah-Chow, near Kinchow, the cause of which was that a petty military officer had attempted to force the inhabitants to make him presents for the celebration of his birthday, which took place some two months ago. As the inhabitants did not yield to his greedy desire, the officer got very angry and dragged a young lady of a rich family into his yamen and cruelly tortured her. The inhabitants, seeing that the officer acted in such an outrageous way, at once raised the rebel standard. The Toatai, hearing of the case, immediately went to the scene, but the place could only be made quiet by the arrest of the petty officer, who was afterwards executed by the order of the Viceroy at the place where he committed the crime.

HONGKONG.

The surveying ship *Waterwitch* left on 28th June for Weihaiwei.

There were 1,306 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 132 were Europeans.

For assuming the name and designation of a constable a Chinaman was at the Magistracy on Thursday fined \$50.

Tuesday being Coronation Day the men-of-war in harbour were decorated and a salute was fired at noon.

There were four cases of plague on 26th June and four deaths. There were also four cases and four deaths on 27th.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Queen's exequatur has been issued empowering Dr. E. C. Rieloff to act as Consul for Germany at Hongkong.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. Hugh McCallum, late Secretary of the Sanitary Board, which took place at the Government Civil Hospital at ten minutes past ten on Thursday night.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 28th June says:—We hear that the Chinese Banks are now landing 10,000 bags rice, and Mr. Ah Hing 2,000 bags, imported from the south for sale to the poor at cost price.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday the Chinaman Won Heung, who is charged with the wilful murder of his wife at Praya West last September, was committed for trial.

Mr. Ho Wei-sun, solicitor, a brother of the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, died on Saturday morning. The disease to which the deceased gentleman succumbed was, we understand, fever.

A Chinese woman was at the Magistracy on 28th June fined \$25 for illtreating a girl about ten years of age. Though the child's back was covered with sores she had belaboured her with a stick.

A communication from Dr. F. C. Rieloff, German Consul, published in Saturday's *Gazette*, notifies that in consideration of the danger of infection from plague vessels visiting Kiacchan will be subject to medical examination.

The plague has now quite disappeared from Macao and it is hoped the Hongkong Government will soon see its way to cease the medical inspection of passengers, so that the Macao steamer may not be delayed on arrival.

A number of firms engaged in the cassia trade have formed themselves into an Association called "The Association of China Cassia Exporters," with the object of improving the quality of cassia lignea and broken cassia exported from Canton and Hongkong.

At the Harbour Office on Saturday, before Commander Rumsey, three Zanzibar firemen and an American negro were charged with refusing duty on board the steamer *Venus*, chartered by the O. and O. Company. They were each sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to issue a mandate authorising the consecration of the Rev. Joseph Charles Hoare, M.A., to be a Bishop, to the intent that he should exercise his functions in one of Her Majesty's possessions abroad.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart returns from his leave of absence by the C. P. R. steamer due about the 2nd August. We hear that on his arrival he will undertake an examination of the new territory about to be handed over, and it would appear that the formal transfer will not take place until he has made his report.

The Portuguese Consul-General (Mr. Romano) has forwarded to His Excellency the Governor a numerously-signed petition praying that the sentence of death passed upon Ozorio for the murder of Mr. de Jesus be commuted. The petition was considered by the Governor in Council on Friday morning and was refused the date of the execution being fixed for Monday, 11th July.

The steam-launch *Wah On*, running with passengers between Macao, Kongmun, and Samshui, on the West River, was pirated close to Kongmun on the down trip on Thursday. The pirates were nine in number and plundered the passengers and vessel of articles to the value of about \$600. Piracy is rampant all along these waterways and yet the Chinese Authorities never take any means to prevent it. Some other Power should do it for them at their expense.

On Wednesday afternoon the remains of P. C. Lithiby were interred in the Happy Valley, a number of deceased's colleagues in the Police Force attending the funeral. He was admitted to the Hospital on Saturday, suffering from malarial fever, and died at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning. Deceased was a native of Exeter. He joined the Hongkong Police Force in 1895, having been previously five years in the Metropolitan Police Force. He was only 32 years of age.

Commander Rumsey had before him on 24th June at the Harbour Office two seamen named Ikin and Fitzgibbons belonging to the British ship *Metropolis* for disobeying the lawful commands of William Richards, master of the said ship. The captain stated that at about 10.30 a.m. on Thursday he requested defendants to see all clear and they refused to go into the hold; they said it was too hot. Ikin stated that they had been scraping down aloft in the pouring rain. They could not stop down below on account of the great heat. Fitzgibbons said he had the same to say and was willing with the others to go to work in any part of the ship, except the hold. Penalties of 14 days' hard labour each were imposed.

At the Magistracy on Saturday Commander Hastings had before him two Chinamen—one a broker and the other a boatman—who were charged with being in unlawful possession of 50 bags of flour. A watchman arrested the boatman on Praya West at half-past six on Friday morning for being in unlawful possession of the flour. Subsequently the broker went to No. 7 Police Station and claimed the flour as his property, producing two receipts for 30 and 17 bags respectively from two different shops. He explained that he had the other three bags in his possession. It was proved that the flour from the two shops in question was sold two hours and a half after the arrest of the boatman. The latter was discharged and the broker fined £10.

All day on Thursday the weather was dull and threatening with squalls and heavy showers at intervals. At 3.30 p.m. the following notice was issued by Mr. Figg from the observatory:—"The centre of the depression is likely to pass near Gap Rock. Strong east gale probable in the harbour." As the black south cone, indicating a typhoon to the south within three hundred miles, had been displayed since Tuesday evening, the shipping and smaller craft had had ample time to make preparations to meet the storm or seek places of safety and the residents to make all secure about their houses. There were few sampans at work yesterday and as the day wore on and the appearances became more threatening the launches also ceased plying, the Kowloon ferry service being stopped at 7 p.m. From two to four o'clock on Friday morning the wind blew in gusts of typhoon force, but fortunately very little damage was done.

A correspondent writes:—"The rickshaw service in Hongkong proper is now fairly well under control, and with the exception of a rush occasionally at the Hotel doors, the coolies are passably civil, and accept without demur their legal fares. But across the water at Kowloon you find another state of affairs. The coolies are insolent and abusive, and at least double fare is exacted from residents. Non-residents, or visitors going to and from the Docks, are mulcted in as much as can be got out of them, it being nothing uncommon to hear a coolie demanding one dollar for the fifteen minutes' run. Strangers and seafaring people very often give way to their demands to avoid trouble and escape further abuse. It appears that the police are powerless to stop this unless the party interested appears at the court to prosecute the coolies for calling them foreign devils and worse. Surely some other means might be found of bringing these pirates to reason, say a notice board with the fares at every rickshaw stand, and a notice in Chinese that blackmailing passengers would be punished by simply giving the number to the first policeman. Another rickshaw stand is urgently needed somewhere on the sea front, the present stand below the Hongkong Regiment Barracks being too far from the European quarter."

Commander Hastings is determined to do all he can to put down the gambling houses in the colony, and with this object in view he generally imposes a pretty stiff penalty upon offenders in this respect. On 28th June he had before him two men and a woman charged with keeping a common gaming house at 38, Third street. On Monday Inspector Hanson and a number of police went to the house in question. Before entering an informer who had been given 40 cents with which to gamble was sent in. Then a Chinese constable entered and found defendants and others engaged in the game of fan tan. He arrested defendants. The informer said he had evidence that the place had been used as a gambling house for two years. Mr. Hastings, who appeared for the defence, called a witness who said the informer asked the woman for some money about a month ago, and because she refused to let him have any he said what he would do. Mr. Hastings contended that there were no gambling utensils in the house. There were only a match box, a biscuit box, and some cash found in the house, and under the Ordinance these could not be recognised as gambling utensils. Defendants were just having a quiet game, the informer when he entered having asked them to have one so as to entrap them. Defendants were each fined \$75, or three months.

It is with regret, says the *Foochow Echo*, that we notice the name of Mr. C. H. Brewitt-Taylor amongst the departures on the passenger list of the steamer *Haeshin*. Always courteous, but especially so in the very trying rôle of head of the postal department, Mr. Brewitt-Taylor's departure is a distinct loss to Foochow, though naturally it is by his colleagues and subordinates that his loss will be most felt. We learn that Mr. Brewitt-Taylor will be "at home" for the future in Peking, where we trust that his talents and scholarly attainments will meet with due recognition and reward.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 18th June states that the Japanese Naval Department has ordered from England two more torpedo destroyers, each 275 tons, the same type as those now being built in various countries for the Japanese navy. The contract was signed last month.

The following notice appears in the *Hiogo News*:—"Mr. Percy Mackenzie Skinner, who has been editor of this journal for the last five years, has severed his connection with us. Mr. Skinner is shortly proceeding to Singapore to take up a similar position on the *Straits Times*. We wish him every success in his new venture."

The well-known and much-respected Rev. Y. K. Yen, M.A., Archdeacon of the American Episcopal Mission, South, died at the Parsonage near the corner of Boone Road and Broadway, Shanghai, on the 20th June. The funeral took place the following afternoon at the American Episcopal Church of Our Saviour, of which church the deceased was the Chinese Pastor.

At the inquest held at Nagasaki to enquire into the circumstances attending the death of William Evans, chief gunnery instructor on board H.M.S. *Grafton*, who committed suicide by shooting himself on the 17th June on board the ship, evidence was given that deceased was of a despondent disposition. Dr. Crowley, Staff Surgeon, R.N., said he had known the deceased from the 12th to 18th May last, when he was on the sick list suffering from insomnia. The evidence previously given regarding the behaviour of deceased was corroborated by witness. He could give no reason why Evans had taken his life. Deceased had spoken to witness and stated that he was feeling much better, and never gave the slightest symptoms of an intention to commit suicide. He saw nothing in his behaviour that would have induced him to put him under restraint or prohibit his access to firearms. The deceased had no suicidal tendency, and it was temporary insanity, caused by a hypochondriacal disposition and by nervous anxiety lest he should develop paralysis, that caused him to commit suicide. A verdict of temporary insanity was returned.

The recall of Colonel E. Rice, until recently Military Attaché of the United States Legation in Tokyo, was, the *Japan Mail* says, understood to be in connexion with the Hispano-American war, but we were not aware of the high position awaiting him beyond the water, and the news will be received with sincere pleasure by his many friends. He has been nominated an Assistant Inspector-General in the United States Army. Colonel Rice has a long record of active and distinguished service, beginning in 1861. It fills a whole column of the *Boston Transcript*, and since it does not admit of abbreviation, we cannot reproduce it here. But one paragraph should not be omitted:—"He was in the battle of Gettysburg, where he was wounded twice in the repulse of Pickett's charge. He was presented by Congress with a medal of honour for leading the advance of his regiment and the Forty-second New York, in the charge made to close the gap in our line and repel Pickett's assault. The inscription was: 'The Congress to Lieutenant-Colonel Edmund Rice, Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers, for conspicuous bravery on the third day of the battle of Gettysburg.' In the fierceness of this affair, the Nineteenth Massachusetts (which he commanded) captured four stands of colours, and lost over one-half of its number, killed and wounded." It was believed in America, at the date of our latest advices, that Colonel Rice would be sent immediately to Manila, but our readers know that he has proceeded direct to New York.

A Peking telegram published in the Japanese papers states that the Chinese Government has rejected Russia's suggestion that China should engage a number of Russian officers as military instructors.

Sir Claude Macdonald, the British Minister, is at present enjoying the sea breezes at Peitaiho, so that it would seem diplomatic doings at Peking must be rather dull just now.—*China Gazette*.

Native reports from Hankow state that a large bank has lately failed there with liabilities amounting to over Tls. 300,000, and that the Shansi Bankers and loan institutions are the greatest sufferers by the failure, one bank alone losing Tls. 70,000.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We understand that the Governor of Soochow has approved of the appointment of Mr. Murphy (late instructor of foreign drilled troops at Woosung) to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Police at Soochow. Mr. Murphy leaves Shanghai to-day (23rd June) and will enter upon his new duties immediately.—*N. C. Daily News*.

At Shanghai on the 20th June a native boat, loaded with 200 tins of kerosine oil, took fire while at anchor off the old Japanese naval yard. From the nature of the cargo, nothing could be done to save the vessel, and she had to be allowed to burn to the water's edge. The boatmen were taken into custody by the river police, but were afterwards released. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—The death-rate for Hongkong for 1897 was 18.85 per thousand, as against 36 per thousand for the whole of this colony. Yet the Health Officer in Hongkong says "no less than 1,800 Chinese die annually in Hongkong as the result of gross insanitary conditions, many of which are at present permitted by the laws of the colony." What about the death-rate of Singapore, which is twice as high as that of Hongkong?

The *Times of Ceylon* of the 13th June says:—The mail just in brings news from Aden that hopes of getting off the *China* are gradually diminishing. It is now two and a half months since she went on shore, and some people seem to think even if she were got off, that she would be so badly strained as hardly to be of much use. If the work of getting her off has to be abandoned, the Salvage Company at work on her will commence to gut her, taking out her engines and all her fittings and everything of any value in the ship.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says:—"One of our Paris correspondents has heard that there is being formed for the construction of railways in Indo-China a Company with a capital of sixty million francs, bearing interest at the rate of four per cent., jointly guaranteed by Tonkin and Cochinchina. One line is to run from Saigon to Cantho with a branch from Mytho to the village of Tanhiep; another from Saigon to Hué, to be afterwards extended to Yunnan; and there is to be a third line not yet determined upon. It is observed that the Saigon-Cantho line would make a second means of communication and that it would be preferable to enlarge the Mangthit Canal, by which rice could be easily transported, while in Indo-China it will be many years before that can be done by the railway, which will only be useful to passengers. We give this information under reserve."

On her last voyage from Hankow to Shanghai a rather alarming incident took place on board the Indo-China steamer *Yuenwo*, Capt. Flagg. A number of Chinese passengers boarded the steamer as she was leaving Hankow, and the people on board becoming suspicious, and not liking the appearance of the travellers, intimated that they would search their baggage. The individuals objected to this, but three stalwart Sikhs being called on board, the baggage of the newcomers was submitted to inspection, when it was found to contain a large number of revolvers and cartridges, the idea of the amiable travellers, apparently, being to "hold up" the vessel upon the first favourable opportunity, and no doubt they had allies among the passengers on board who would join at the proper moment. But the timely discovery of the arms in their possession frustrated their object, and they were handed over to the authorities to be dealt with.—*China Gazette*.

The following, from the *Mercury*, shows that Shanghai is considerably ahead of Hongkong in its meteorological service:—The new weather bureau now under construction on the French Bund is a far more spacious building than was generally believed would supersede the kiosk which has done duty for so long. The building is of the dimensions of a fair-sized dwelling house, and will contain five rooms. One of these will be occupied by a father from the Siciwei Observatory; another by a European clerk, one by the coolies, and the fourth is for the signal flags. These rooms are at the ends of the building, which is in the form of a parallelogram. The large room in the centre will be open to the public seeking meteorological information; weather charts, etc., being displayed, and other facilities being provided for. The work is being faithfully carried out, and it is remarkably free from more than necessary ornamentation, but all the same is a very conveniently designed building, and was planned by Mr. Chollot, Municipal Engineer to the French Municipality.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 25th June.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The latest advices from London quote Blue Elephants 1 1/3, and top of Silk market quiet. Raw Silk.—Further purchases for forward delivery have been reported this week, and prices show an advance all round. Gold Killings are said to have been done at Tls. 425; this chop is specially strong, as Chinese speculators are in the market covering their sales of the last few weeks. Tsattees.—About 500 bales have changed hands. Hangchows.—About 100 bales have been booked. Taysams.—350/400 bales figure in the settlements this week; prices are high and very firm. Total settlements amount to 300 bales. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 18th to 24th June, are, 1,122 bales White, nil bales Yellow, and 281 bales Wild Silks. Re-reels and Filatures.—A large business has been done in Hand Filatures for Lyons, and fully 700 bales have been settled; prices show an advance of Tls. 5 at 7 1/4. Some parcels of old Silk have been settled for America on the basis of Tls. 47 1/4 for Mars Chop No. 1. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 187 bales to America, 49 bales to the Continent, and 9 bales to England. Wild Silks.—Market quiet, about 150 bales have changed hands. Waste Silk.—No market.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	197	509

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	2,119	333

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 1st July.—Stocks are accumulating and prices are rather lower than at date of last report. Quotations for Fo mosu are \$4.00 to \$40.50. Sales, 300 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 1st July.—The market continues brisk and there has been a further improvement in prices. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.36 to 7.38	per pol.
do. " 2, White...	7.15 to 7.17	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.82 to 4.85	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.75 to 4.77	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.27 to 7.30	"
do. " 2, White...	7.04 to 7.06	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.80 to 4.81	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.72 to 4.75	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.24 to 11.26	"
Shekloong "	10.07 to 10.09	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Queen Margaret*, sailed on the 11th June. For New York:—1,745 packages merchandise, 1,900 bales and 450 boxes cassia, 2 cases embroideries, 3 cases blackwoodware, 185 rolls matting, 6 packages personal effects, 16 cases human hair, 52 packages rattanware, 130 bundles rattanware, 1 case type writers, 1 package bristles, and 1 box tea poy.

Per steamer *Adria*, sailed on the 21st June. For Beyrouth:—29 cases glass bangles. For London:—2 cases sundries, 3 cases silks, 4 bales rattan shavings, 6 cases gongs, 10 cases woodware, 16 bales rattanware, 51 cases blackwoodware, 163 cases Chinaware, 300 rolls matting, and 328 cases palm leaf fans. For Manchester:—300 bales waste silk. For London and/or Antwerp:—75 cases bristles. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—200 bales bambooware. For Antwerp:—20 packages canes, 30 cases bristles, and 100 cases cassia. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—29 cases merchandise. For Hamburg and/or London:—10 cases bristles, and 100 cases gallnuts. For Hamburg:—1 case curios, 1 case horns, 2 cases copperware, 2 cases silks, 10 cases sundries, 11 cases bambooware, 30 bales rattan shavings, 34 bales feathers, 100 cases preserves, 142 bales rattanware, 147 cases bristles, 233 rolls matting, 543 packages canes, 1,149 cases camphor, 1,450 cases cassia, 2,015 bags charcoal, and 2,800 packages tea. For Amsterdam:—1 case Chinaware, 6 cases woodware, and 10 packages tea. For Odessa:—91 packages tea. For Buenos Ayres:—35 cases fans.

Per steamer *Myrmidon*, sailed on the 22nd June. For London:—9,928 boxes tea (208,438 lbs.), 5 cases effects, 15 cases bristles, 10 cases essential oil, 13 cases blackwoodware, 1 case silk, 200 bales cassia lignea, 31 bales canes, 60 cases preserves, 2,028 packages crackers, and 10 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—144 bales waste silk. For London and/or Hamburg:—50 cases bristles. For London and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or Havre:—30 cases bristles. For Manchester:—146 boxes waste silk.

Per German str. *Sachsen*, sailed on the 22nd June. For Port Said:—1 case silk. For Trieste:—16 cases tea. For Odessa:—250 boxes cassia lignea. For Naples:—1 case merchandise. For Genoa:—10 boxes canes, and 41 bales raw silk. For New York:—120 bales raw silk. For Antwerp:—30 bales rattanware, 20 bales rattan shavings, 9 cases Chinaware, 1 bale canes, and 1 case samples. For Antwerp and/or Bremen:—5 packages split bamboo. For Amsterdam:—49 cases Chinaware, 3 bales black bamboo, 2 cases camphorwood trunks, and 1 case gongs. For Bremen:—30 bales rattanware, 12 cases Chinaware and 2 cases merchandise. For Hamburg:—1,415 packages tea, 64 bales feathers, and 14 cases sundries.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 1st July.—Bengal.—There has been a lull in the market during the past week, in consequence of which, although prices of New Patna have been maintained, other descriptions have receded in value. Current quotations are \$707 1/4 for New Patna, \$745 for Old Patna, \$695 for New Benares, and \$730 nominally for Old Benares.

Malwa.—Nothing has been done in this drug and quotations are unaltered. Latest figures are as under:—

Old (2 1/2 yrs.) \$830 with all'nce of 0 to 3 cts.
" (6/7 ") \$870 " " of 0 to 3 1/2 "
" (2 1/2 ") \$900 " " of 0 to 3 "

Persian.—The market is firm though the demand is not very brisk. Latest rates are \$490 to \$630 for Oily, and \$550 to \$700 for Paper-wrapped, according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	500	chests
Old Patna	260	"
New Benares	250	"
Old Benares	190	"
Malwa	90	"
Persian	300	"

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 25	705	747 1/4	700	730	—	—
June 26	705	745	700	730	—	—
June 27	710	745	702 1/4	730	—	—
June 28	710	745	702 1/4	730	—	—
June 29	710	745	702 1/4	730	—	—
June 30	710	745	700	730	—	—
July 1	707 1/4	745	695	730	—	—

RICE.

Hongkong 1st July.—The market continues weak. Quotations are:—
 Saigon, Ordinary.....\$2.97 to 3.00
 „ Round, good quality..... 3.16 to 3.20
 „ Long 3.57 to 3.60
 Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... 3.14 to 3.16
 „ Garden, „ No. 1 ... 3.70 to 3.73
 „ White..... 4.50 to 4.55
 „ Fine Cargo 4.76 to 4.80

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 1st July.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—*Bombay Yarn.*—1,200 bales No. 10 at \$73 to \$85.50, 850 bales No. 12 at \$76 to \$87.50, 450 bales No. 16 at \$86 to \$91, 1,050 bales No. 20 at \$92 to \$98. *Japanese Yarn.*—50 bales No. 16 at \$94. *Grey Shirtings.*—250 pieces 10 lbs. Palm Chop at \$4.12½, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Cow Chop at \$2.75, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.77½, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Soldier and Horse at \$2.90. *Spanish Stripes.*—240 pieces B. B. B. at \$0.65, 72 pieces B. B. B. at \$0.65. *Fourteen Drills.*—90 pieces Blue Man No. 250 at \$3.65, 225 pieces American at \$4.37½. *Bengal Cotton.*—100 bales at \$19.50, 96 bales at \$18, 100 bales at \$18.75, 50 bales at \$19.75. *Victoria Lawns.*—1,000 pieces Brown Stag at \$0.64, 1,000 pieces Violet Stag at \$0.68.

METALS.—*Tin.*—300 slabs Siam at \$40.85, 100 slabs Poong Chai at \$41, 100 slabs Siam at \$40.50, 200 slabs Siam at \$40.65.

COTTON YARN.

	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	68.00 to 101.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	111.00 to 117.00
„ 22 to 24.....	114.00 to 120.00
„ 28 to 32.....	124.00 to 129.00
„ 38 to 42.....	133.00 to 140.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.....	1.75 to 1.85
7lbs.....	2.00 to 2.07½
8½ lbs.....	2.50 to 3.20
9 to 10 lbs.....	3.40 to 4.15
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.30 to 2.50
58 to 60 „.....	2.75 to 3.45
64 to 66 „.....	3.55 to 4.40
Fine „.....	4.35 to 7.15
Book-folds.....	3.80 to 5.70
Victoria Lawns—12 yards.....	0.65 to 1.30
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	1.55 to 1.75
7lbs. (32 „), „.....	1.90 to 2.15
6lbs. (32 „), Mexs.....	1.70 to 1.85
7lbs. (32 „), „.....	2.10 to 2.80
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.).....	2.40 to 3.25
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14lbs.....	3.75 to 5.15

FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs.....	1.60 to 5.00
Brocades—Dyed.....	3.00 to 5.00
Damasks.....	0.12 to 0.16
Chintzes—Assorted.....	0.08 to 0.14
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.20 to 0.45
Velveteens—18 in.....	0.17½ to 0.18½
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk.....	0.45 to 0.90

WOOLLENS

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.57½ to 1.40
German.....	1.15 to 1.50
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 5.25
Long Ells—Scarlet.....	6.50 to 10.00
Assorted.....	6.60 to 10.00
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted.....	10.00 to 21.60
Orleans—Plain.....	7.00 to 8.50
Blankets—8 to 12lbs.....	3.50 to 14.00

METALS

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod.....	4.00 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar.....	4.05 to —
Swedish Bar.....	5.60 to —
Small Round Rod.....	4.40 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.....	5.25 to —
Wire 15/25.....	8.50 to —
Old Wire Rope.....	1.50 to 3.00
Lead, L. B. and Hole Chop.....	9.00 to —
Australian.....	9.00 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz.....	32.00 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz.....	32.00 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.....	33.20 to —

Composition Nails.....	46.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs.....	36.00 to —
Tiles.....	29.00 to —
Tin.....	— to —
Tin-Plates.....	5.90 to —
Steel ½ to 1.....	5.25 to —
SUNDRIES.....	per picul
Quicksilver.....	145.00 to —
Window Glass.....	4.40 to —
Kerosene Oil.....	2.17 to —

SHANGHAI, 25th June.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—It could only have been expected that the week under review would necessarily be a very quiet one, seeing that the settling day was on the 23rd inst., and so it has turned out. Next to nothing has been done in spot cargo, and very little more for forward delivery. Yesterday and to-day, however, the dealers have been more in evidence, but only to find their efforts somewhat checked by the advancing Exchange, as they cannot obtain what they consider adequate concessions from holders. On the other hand it has been of some assistance to indentors, and coupled with the slightly easier market in Manchester, has enabled a fair number of orders to go through, but the business is not at all general, being confined more or less to special cloths and chops. The only markets that are showing any disposition to buy at the moment are Hankow and Chefoo, but reports from Tientsin are more favourable, a good supply of rain having fallen during the interval and allayed all the fears that were entertained regarding the crops. Rice, however, continues to be abnormally high throughout the country and the authorities are experiencing considerable trouble with unscrupulous speculators. It is said the market is three to five candareens lower for Piece Goods in Tientsin, but they are moving more freely and the situation looks more promising. There is, however, next to no demand from Newchwang to assist in keeping up values, and it looks as though the Tientsin buyers will again have it all their own way, as they did last season, through the lack of competition with other markets. Ningpo is still very quiet and sends but few orders. Clearances have only been fair, no doubt on account of the tightness of money, native interest ruling as high as 18 per cent. of during the week.

METALS, 27th June.—(From Messrs. Alex Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—Beyond the auction sales, particulars of which are given below, absolutely nothing has been done, not a single contract being reported. Bar and Flat Iron, which has cost from Tls. 3.40 to Tls. 3.50 to lay down here, has been and is on offer at Tls. 3.10 to Tls. 3.20, holders preferring to face this loss now to a possible greater loss later. Tin-plates and Lead are also on offer below cost. No buyers. The rise in exchange assists this feeling of insecurity as all cargoes coming on have been settled at the lower rate, and there is much fear many contracts will be repudiated. Certain Chinese have been on the look-out for old iron ships, and in addition to one already being broken up it is reported that one lately purchased is to be dealt with likewise, simply for the old material contained in it. This shows the market better than many words. The following goods have been sold:—At Auction—250 piculs Old Wire Ropes at Tls. 0.70, 260 piculs Flat Wire Ropes at Tls. 1.25½, 130 piculs Chain at Tls. 2.50, 50 piculs Galvanized Wire at Tls. 4.00, 120 piculs Steel Plate Cuttings at Tls. 2.15, 150 piculs Round Bars at Tls. 3.05, 475 piculs New Short Hoops at Tls. 2.50, 200 piculs Round Iron at Tls. 2.52½, 800 piculs Old Telegraph Wire at Tls. 2.33, 475 piculs Cables at Tls. 2.50, 300 piculs Iron Plates at Tls. 1.74, 1,700 piculs Cart Tyres at Tls. 2.65, 300 kegs Wire Nails at Tls. 3.80, 200 piculs Old Wire at Tls. 1.92, 175 piculs Old Wire Rope at Tls. 1.00 to 1.40.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 1st July.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer.....	1/11
Bank Bills, on demand.....	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight.....	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight.....	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight.....	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight.....	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand.....	2.42
Credits, at 4 months' sight.....	2.46

ON GERMANY.—	
On demand.....	1.96
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand.....	46½
Credits, 60 days' sight.....	47½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer.....	146½
Bank, on demand.....	147½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer.....	146½
Bank, on demand.....	147½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight.....	74½
Private, 30 days' sight.....	75½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand.....	5½ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand.....	nom.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand.....	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate.....	10.25
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.....	54.50

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 1st July.—The market continues quiet and inactive, with but few changes in rates. The monthly settlements yesterday passed off satisfactorily.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai unchanged with a small business at 194 per cent. prem.; shares are still wanted forward without finding sellers. Nationals continue on offer at \$17½ without business. Bank of China unchanged.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$62 and more are wanted at that rate. Unions, Cantons, and Straits remain on offer at quotations without finding buyers. The Northern Assurances unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs remain quiet and on offer at \$332½ and Chinas at \$99 without any business to report.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been negotiated at \$25½ and \$25½, closing with buyers at the former rate. On time no business has been reported. Indo-Chinas have found buyers at \$60 and \$59 and a fair number of shares have changed hands at these rates. Douglases have been done at \$58 and close steady at that. China Manilas continue out of the market with sellers and no sales at \$80. China Mutuals unchanged and steady at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been in some demand and have changed hands at \$164, \$165, and \$166, closing firm at \$166. Luzons quite out of the market and unsaleable at anything like quotation.

MINING.—Punjoms have been enquired for in a small way at \$6 and \$6.10, but very few shares have changed hands. Balmorals have been placed at 75 cents preference and 65 cents ordinaries. Olivers A. and B. have been vainly offered at quotations without finding buyers. Jebeus have changed hands in a small way at \$3.70. Raubs have ruled rather quieter with small sales at \$26½ and \$36½, closing with buyers at the latter and probable sellers at the former rate.

LOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue to rule quiet notwithstanding the rumour that the Company has had a record half year; shares have been on offer at 252 per cent. prem. without inducing buyers to come forward, and over settlements shares could have been obtained even cheaper had buyers been willing to operate. Kowloon Wharves have found further investing buyers at \$60 and \$61, closing steady at \$60. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been negotiated in small lots at \$71½, \$72, and \$71, closing with sellers at \$72. Hotels are inquired for in a small way at \$51 without finding sellers. West Points and Humphreys unchanged and without business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands old issue have been negotiated at \$31 and \$30, and new issue at \$19½, closing with buyers. Ropes have changed hands at \$160, Electrics at \$8.75, and China Providents at \$9½.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	194 ¹ / ₁₀ prem=
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$4	nominal
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares...	\$8	\$17 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Founders Shares...	\$1	\$20, sales
Ball's Asbestos E. A. ...	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M. ...	\$10	\$9 ¹ / ₂ , sales & sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$167, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 100	Tls. 100, sellers
Hongkong	\$40	\$21
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 100
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 101
Soyche	Tls. 500	Tls. 505
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Dairy Farm Co.	\$	\$1
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$30 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$39
Do. New Issue...	\$5	\$19 ¹ / ₂ , sales
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$125
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$8 ¹ / ₂ , sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$107
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$5 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$110, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$6, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$180, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	252 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton...	\$50	\$137 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$99, sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$62, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$33 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180, buyers
Straits	\$20	\$19
Union	\$50	\$220, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$134, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$71, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8 ¹ / ₂ , sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$21, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fce 500	\$110, sellers
Great E. & Odonian	\$5	\$180, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2 ¹ / ₂	\$3.10, buyers
Jebeu	\$5	\$3.70, sellers
New Balmoral	\$1	65c., sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	75c., sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$13, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2 ¹ / ₂	\$1.75, sellers
Punjoni	\$5	\$6.10, buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.60
Raub	14s. 10d.	\$36 ¹ / ₂ , sales
New Amoy Dock	\$6 ¹ / ₂	\$4, sales
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$80, sellers
China Mutual Ord...	\$10	\$8 10c., buyers
Do. Preference ...	\$10	\$5 10s.
Do. Do.	\$5	\$3
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$58, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$25 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Indo-China S. N. ...	\$10	\$30
Star Ferry	\$7 ¹ / ₂	\$8 ¹ / ₂ , buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$1	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 ¹ / ₂	\$41 ¹ / ₂
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$11.25, buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 27th June.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Business still remains quiet, on account chiefly of the tightness of money. Rates are well maintained. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been in demand, both locally and from Hongkong. Sales were made to Hongkong at 193 per cent. premium, with exchange 74.75, equal to 200 per cent. with exchange 73, at which latter rate shares changed hands locally. Business was done on the 25th and to-day at 201 per cent. Bank of China and Japan Ordinary shares are offering, but buyers hold aloof. Marine Insurance.—Business has been confined to a sale of Union Insurance shares at \$222.50, and there are more offering on the same terms. Yangtze shares are offering at \$130. Fire Insurance.—One or two lots of Chinas have been placed at \$99. Shipping.—No business reported in Indo-China S. N. shares. China Mutual S. N. Preference shares were sold at Tls. 72.50. Sugar Companies.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 42. The market is now weaker, with sellers at Tls. 41. Sales of China

Sugar Refining shares were made in Hongkong at \$166. Mining.—Sheridan Con. Mining & M. Co. shares are wanted at Tls. 250. Raub Australian Gold Mining shares were placed at \$37. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Boyd & Co. shares are wanted. S. C. Farnham & Co. shares were placed at Tls. 175/177 cash, Tls. 175 for the 30th current, and Tls. 183 for the 30th September. Cash shares are wanted. Shanghai Dock shares were sold at Tls. 82 cash and are wanted. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares were placed, and are offering, at Tls. 120. Buyers offer Tls. 118. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares changed hands at Tls. 83. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 217. Cotton Mill shares: Internationals were placed at Tls. 106 and Tls. 105 cash, and Laou-Kung-Mows at Tls. 101 cash and Tls. 106 for October, Ewos are obtainable at Tls. 99, and Yah Loongs at Tls. 70. Shanghai Ice shares changed hands at Tls. 112, and China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 55. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Cargo Boat shares were placed at Tls. 180. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares were done at Tls. 300. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 79 and Tls. 80 cash, and Tls. 85 for the 30th September. In Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares business was done at Tls. 225, Tls. 235, Tls. 215 and 220 cash, carrying with them the new shares at par, namely, Tls. 50. Loans.—The following Debentures changed hands:—Shanghai Land 5.50 per cent. at Tls. 96. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. at Tls. 101, and Shanghai-Sumatra 8 per cent. at par, plus the accrued interest in all cases.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$376.35.
Bank of China and Japan, defd.—£5.5.0
Do. ordinary.—Nominal.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.75.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 100.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—22.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 105.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 101.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 505.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & C.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 192.50.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$60.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$461.87.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 177.00.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 82.00.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 120.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$137.50.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$99.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$64.50.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$310.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 182.50.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$11.50.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$222.
Yangtze Insurance Assocn., Ltd.—\$130.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$72.
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 88.00.

MINING.

Punjoni Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.50.
Punjoni Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.80.
Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$37.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 250.

SHIPPING.

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.50.
Do. ordinary. £3 paid.—Tls. 26.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 160.00.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$59.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$26.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 46. 0.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 150.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 205.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 110.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$169.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$12.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 41.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 90.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$11.00.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 55.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$38.00.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$61.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 500.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 217.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00.
Shanghai Ice Company—Tls. 112.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 220.00.
Do. New Issue.—Nominal.

Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.

Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 80.00.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 300.00.

Watson Co., A. S. Limited.—\$11.50.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 27th June (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—In our last issue we noted that there was a probability of rates to New York being further reduced, and this probability became a reality as soon after we wrote as possible, they did not go down with a rush, but by half crowns until 25s. was reached. We have not as yet been able to get a clear idea of the reason for reducing, as such a move certainly did not bring out any more cargo, and there was also no threatening opposition. Business in tea for the United States is almost at a complete standstill, owing, of course, to the extremely wicked tax America has put on this article. For London there has been no alteration and more cargo than was really expected has come down from Hankow, so that steamers are getting better support than they anticipated. Coasting business is in a deplorable state, very little demand existing for any direction, fixtures have been made at \$1.50 per ton from Moji to this, but the present rate is a little better than that. For London via Suez.—There have been four steamers loading during the fortnight, but none of them got too much cargo to cause any excitement. There is at present nothing but the mails on the berth; however, it will not remain long in this state, as the steamer *Priam* is due very shortly from Japan to take her chance, which by then should be more remunerative. For New York via Suez.—Just before the *Afridi* left the *St. Ninian* arrived, and at once proceeded to work, to lower rates; she opened at 30s. per ton, and scarcely an hour had elapsed before 5s. was knocked off this, at which rate she is still booking cargo. As we have already stated the object of this will never be known to others than the shipowners or agents; it might in their opinion have been the proper course to pursue, but a thing of this sort only worries shippers and does nobody any good. The rate for the following steamers, viz., *Pathan* and *Benmohr* will be 30s. per ton. For New York via Cape.—The *Emily F. Whitney*, we believe, has a good quantity of cargo engaged, and will sail almost immediately, so also will the *Fooking Suey*. There is an opportunity for another sailer, but offers made are too low. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 20s. New York via Pacific, 1 ¹/₂ gold cents per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 25s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 25s. for tea. Boston, 32s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 35s. for tea. Philadelphia, 32s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 35s. for tea. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.60 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.60 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe little doing; Newchwang to Swatow little doing; Newchwang to Canton little doing; Wuhu to Canton little doing.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), *Priam* (str.), *Moyuna* (str.), *Armenia* (str.) *Verona* (str.), *Sanuki Maru* (str.), *Hakata Maru* (str.).

For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Sanuki Maru* (str.), *Sydney* (str.), *Hakata Maru* (str.).

For HAMBURG AND ANTWERP.—*Armenia* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Doric* (str.), *Hawthornbank* (str.), *Glenfarg* (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of Japan* (str.).

For VICTORIA, B. C.—*Braemar* (str.), *Tacoma* (str.).

For TACOMA.—Tacoma (str.), Braemar (str.).
 For SEATTLE.—Riojun Maru (str.).
 For NEW YORK.—St. Ninian (str.), Marian
 Woodside, Pathan (str.).
 For AUSTRALIA.—Tsinan (str.) Menmuir (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

June—

ARRIVALS.

24, Hertha, German str., from Hamburg.
 25, Humber, British storeship, from Y'hama.
 25, Trym, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 25, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 25, Quarta, German str., from Java.
 25, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 25, Woosung, British str., from Canton.
 25, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 25, China, German str., from Saigon.
 25, Kansu, British str., from Hongay.
 25, Old Kensington, Brit. ship, from Penarth.
 25, Tacoma, British str., from Tacoma.
 26, Alacrity, British d. v., from Weihaiwei.
 26, Breconshire, Brit. str., from Philadelphia.
 26, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
 26, Eddie, British str., from Cardiff.
 26, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 26, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Swatow.
 26, Sungkiang, British str., from Iloilo.
 26, Dante, German str., from Moji.
 26, Picciola, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Choyasang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Mathilde, German str., from Newchwang.
 27, Catherine Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 27, Chwnshan, British str., from Bangkok.
 27, Petrarch, German str., from Manila.
 27, Afridi, British str., from Amoy.
 27, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 27, Propontis, British str., from Saigon.
 27, Donar, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Pronto, German str., from Quinhon.
 27, Hainan, German str., from Chefoo.
 28, Orestes, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Siegfried, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Chiyoda Maru, Jap. str., from Karatsu.
 28, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.
 28, Mount Sirion, British str., from Blyth.
 28, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 28, Bayern, German str., from Bremen.
 28, Hoihow, British str., from Cebu.
 28, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Capton.
 29, Memnon, British str., from Sandakan.
 29, Taiwan Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 29, Penobscot, Amr. bark, from Newcastle.
 29, Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 29, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Tsinan, British str., from Kobe.
 29, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.
 29, Nanyang, German str., from Swatow.
 29, Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 30, Chingwo, British str., from Liverpool.
 30, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 30, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 30, Nord, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 30, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 30, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 30, Mathilde, German str., from Canton.
 30, Indrapura, British str., from New York.

July—

1, Sydney, French str., from Shanghai.
 1, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Swatow.
 1, Trym, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 1, Matsushima, Japanese cr., from Manila.
 1, Tancarville, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Armenia, German str., from Shanghai.
 1, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.

June—

DEPARTURES.

25, Ballarat, British str., for Shanghai.
 25, Aztec, Hawaiian str., for San Francisco.
 25, Activ, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 25, Benlomond, British str., for Rangoon.
 25, Broadmayne, Brit. str., for Paukalan Susu.
 25, Centaur, British str., for Singapore.
 25, Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 25, Doyu Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 25, Hanai, French str., for Hoihow.
 25, Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 25, Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 25, Trym, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 26, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 26, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 26, Hinsang, British str., for Singapore.

26, Kendal Castle, British str., for Yokohama.
 26, Nanyo Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 26, Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 26, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.
 27, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 27, Mathilde, German str., for Canton.
 28, Kachidate Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 28, Frejr, Danish str., for Hoihow.
 28, Yamashiro Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 28, Waterwitch, British s. v., for Weihaiwei.
 28, Breconshire, British str., for Kobe.
 28, Choyasang, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Clara, German str., for Aparri.
 28, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.
 28, Eddie, British str., for Manila.
 28, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Glengyle, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Orestes, British str., for London.
 28, Pasig, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Venus, British str., for Batavia.
 28, Wuotan, German str., for Manila.
 28, Wingfoo, British steam launch, for Manila.
 29, Kansu, British str., for Hongay.
 29, Hertha, German str., for Yokohama.
 29, Mogul, British str., for Moji.
 29, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Foochow.
 29, Empress of India, British str., for V'couver.
 29, Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
 29, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Hohenzollern, German str., for Yokohama.
 29, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
 30, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.

July—

1, Tamsui, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Afridi, British str., for Singapore.
 1, Dante, German str., for Iloilo.
 1, Benedi, British str., for Yokohama.
 1, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Chusan, from Shanghai for Hongkong.
 Messrs. J. Morrison and G. Mudge, and Miss
 Mather; for Singapore, Mr. L. Brandt; for
 Calcutta, Dr. Herkheimer; for Bombay, Capt.
 Guldin; for London via Bombay, Mr. C.
 Firth; for Marseilles, Miss M. Ebert.

Per Hongkong, from Haiphong, Messrs.
 Malon, Kuhnunch, Lechande and Crescence.

Per Hailong, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. and Mrs.
 Ede.

Per Yamashiro Maru, for Hongkong, from
 Melbourne, Messrs. S. F. Lamb, E. M. Paget
 and J. T. Duff; for Yokohama, Mrs. J. H.
 Parry, Messrs. W. Howson, Joe. Jackson,
 A. Cecilio and P. Francisco.

Per Lyeemoon, from Shanghai, Mr. R. F.
 Grey.

Per Formosa, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs.
 Petrocokino and Haines.

Per Hertha, from Singapore, Mrs. Muhle,
 and 200 Chinese.

Per Doric, from San Francisco, &c., Mr.
 Archibald MacKillop, Mrs. J. H. Fertig and
 child, Chaplain W. R. Reany, U.S.N., Messrs.
 J. A. Plummer, G. W. Mead, D. H. Cameron,
 Mr. and Mrs. F. Klein, Miss G. Palmer, Mr. F.
 Molyneaux, Baron Swaine, Messrs. T. J.
 Williams, W. T. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. Burd,
 Messrs. H. B. Goodfellow, Yuen Hoo and Hong
 Hoo.

Per Catherine Apar, from Calcutta and
 Straits, Mrs. P. Gropper, Miss Spradlin, Mr.
 F. St. John Berry and 436 Chinese.

Per Petrarch, from Manila, Capt. St. Lietz-
 mann, Messrs. Premies Liens, Prof Soden, En-
 gineers Trinning, and St. Rosentiel.

Per Tokio Maru, from Yokohama for Australia,
 Messrs. H. Mola, Waterfield, J. A. de Souza, M.
 Baker, C. Hives, and J. James.

Per Bayern, from Bremen, &c., Consul G.
 Niederlein, Messrs. Hunter, T. Barrington, O.
 Spandow, C. Stockhausen, T. Handelman, D.
 Nielsen, T. Legge, O. Ritthausen, E. Schulze,
 M. Krieg, C. Rohde, O. Zitelmann, H. Gip-
 perich, Th. Carl, C. A. Wegelin, Fr. Kohl, W.
 Trendel and family, T. Beermann, P. Thurner,
 and G. Fingerhut.

Per Memnon, from Borneo, Mrs. W. Girvan
 and Mr. Jas. Wilson.

Per Kwanglee, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs.
 Osborne and family.

Per Tsinan, from Kobe, Messrs. Parson, Mar-
 shall, and Todd.

Per Nanyang, from Swatow, Rev. Lamont,
 and Mr. Rivalle.

Per Haimun, from Tamsui, &c., Messrs. Mun-
 roe and Price.

Per Sydney, for Hongkong from Yokohama,
 Capt. A. Tillet, Mrs. J. D. Munro, Messrs.
 E. Barfoot, J. Lewis, W. Wallace and W.
 Huchlesby; from Kobe, Major Sommerville,
 Messrs. W. B. Molany and C. H. Hassum;
 from Nagasaki, Mr. Krisky; from Shanghai,
 Bishop Burdon, Messrs. S. Sutcliffe, C. A.
 Xavier, W. J. Harry, Lo Tsien Ting and
 On Yong Kong, Mr. and Mrs. Santos, Mrs.
 Harwon Siap, Mrs. M. Gutierrez, Misses
 Timotia and Wells, and Dr. Davis.

Per Thales, from Coast Ports, Mr. Sutton.

DEPARTED.

Per Taiyuan, for Thursday Island, Misses
 Sequeira (2) and Alves; for Melbourne, Misses
 Boyd and Pile, and Mr. J. U. Buchanan.

Per Chusan, from Hongkong for Singapore,
 Capt. H. S. Langborne, R.A., and Mr. A. J.
 Reed; for London, Messrs. W. H. Butcher, L.
 Somerville, Staff Quartermaster Sergt. R. Har-
 vey, and Mrs. Bremner; from Shanghai for
 Singapore, Mr. C. Brandt; for Colombo, Dr.
 Herxheimer; for Bombay, Capt. E. Guldin;
 for London, Mr. C. M. Firth; for Marseilles,
 Miss M. Ebert; from Yokohama for Colombo,
 Mr. J. Gold.

Per Ballarat, for Shanghai from Hongkong,
 Messrs. Kuhnunch, Jordan, and G. Corke;
 from London, Messrs. Conscience, Seregardus,
 F. R. Care, E. Baker, and Kay; from Brindisi,
 Messrs. Edmontson, F. Matorns, M. F. Hay, K.
 Frosall, and F. Way Kong; from Singapore,
 Mr. J. Holton.

Per Rosetta, from Hongkong for Nagasaki,
 Messrs. Eric M. Paget and James Schon; for
 Kobe, Messrs. A. A. Camroodin and Yoosuf As-
 raf; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. Barr, Lamb, Miss
 Meaden, Lieuts. W. Loring and E. W. Browne;
 for Kobe from London, Miss Murato Yoski; for
 Yokohama from London, Mr. W. A. Campbell,
 Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, and Mr. G. A. Almond;
 from Port Said, Mr. T. McKay.

Per Yamashiro Maru, for Japan Ports, Mrs.
 J. H. Parry, Mr. W. Howson, Capt. Rowcroft,
 H.K.R., Mr. Stehr, Mr. and Mrs. Stoffa.

Per Bayern, for Shanghai from Bremen,
 30 German Officers, Messrs. H. Gipperich,
 T. Carl, G. Trendel, Mr. and Mrs. W.
 Trendel and child; from Antwerp, Messrs.
 O. Ritthausen and C. A. Wegelin; from
 Southampton, Mr. H. Lo; from Genoa,
 Messrs. E. Schulze M. Kreig, C. Rohde, O.
 Letelmann, Consul G. Niederlein, Messrs. F.
 Kohl, J. Beermann; from Naples, Mr. P. Thur-
 ner; from Aden, Mr. G. Fingerhut; from Hong-
 kong, Mrs. West.

Per Hohenzollern, for Yokohama from South-
 ampton, Messrs. Hunter and J. Barrington;
 from Hongkong, Messrs. Hafen, J. A. C. V.
 Ribeiro, A. Rocha, and Th. W. Vogelgesang.

Per Haitan, for Swatow, Mr. and Mrs.
 Grainger; for Amoy, Mr. Finlayson; for Foo-
 chow, Messrs. Ronald Black and Herbert Lo.

Per Empress of India, for Amoy, Mr. Kum-
 pel; for Shanghai, Miss M. Russell, Messrs. S.
 Behran, M. Sethna, R. J. L. Wright, Loureiro,
 J. S. Morrison, and M. Parsons; for Kobe, Mr.
 J. L. Thomson, and Mr. J. F. Duff; for Yoko-
 hama, Mrs. Langhorne and 2 children, Mrs.
 Rumsey, Mrs. Fitton and child, Mrs. Ewing
 and child, Mr. and Mrs. G. Ede, Dr. and Mrs.
 Lyall, Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Glazebrook,
 Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Graham, Messrs. H. O.
 Sparrow, J. Kyles, Mrs. Kyles, Lieut. Deverell,
 and Mr. E. R. Morris; for Vancouver, B.C.,
 Messrs. R. Stephenson and L. Escombe; for
 San Francisco, Capt. D. Hodgson; for London,
 Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomas and child, Mr. and
 Mrs. A. Sassen, Messrs. J. P. Lawrence, A.
 Lassens, E. Frömming, H. Evans, and J. Wil-
 son; for London from Shanghai, Dr. R. Watson;
 from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Milner, Misses
 Milner; for Paris, Dr. J. A. Matignon, and Mr.
 Conrandy.

Printed and Published by D. WARREN SMITH, at
 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.